

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Kalamazoo Section ACS**  
**Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 6:30 PM**  
**Location: Conference Call**

**Due to the State and Federal National Emergency Declarations the April 2020 Executive Committee 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):

Go to <https://themeetingson.webex.com/themeetingson/j.php?MTID=mf72a41ebe5d7bac04a860d001bc1ef23>

2. Enter your name and email address.

3. Meeting password: (This meeting does not require a password.)

4. Click "Join Now".

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

**#Start:** 6:37

1. Secretary's Report (JR)
  - a. Review and approval of March 2020 minutes (**Attached at end**)  
**#HJ and ET added names of the section's 3 service awardees**
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)  
**Restricted funds are split out as line items**  
**The ACS local allotment was \$6615.24**  
**Collected dues amounted to 1199.50**  
**Need to respond to ACS national regarding collection of voluntary local section dues (\$8/yr), whether KACS will continue having ACS collect and disburse – approval was granted for this practice to continue and response submitted to ACS.**  
**Need to report to ACS when we file the 990-N with IRS**  
**It was discussed that it might be worth pursuing ways to utilize the funds that are freed up by budgeted events canceled by COVID-19 pandemic (try to get expenditures back on budget)**
3. Communications Chair (MW)
  - a. Newsletter Report
    - a. We need our newsletter out monthly; how do we make this happen?  
**Contributions due Fri April 24, newsletter will be issued week after**
  - b. Website report – update on webservice transition  
**We have received the 'wireframe' of the website**
4. Student Organizations
  - a. WMU Chem Club (Andrew Simpkins, President)  
**CCEW video** ← (click for link to video)  
**Present, showed video.**

- b. WMU CGSA (Emile Van Meter, President)

Not Present

- c. Kalamazoo College (Blake Tresca, adviser; Sarah Nixon [President], Amelia Grey [media]))

Not Present

## 5. Old Business

- a. Project SEED update – call for students sent to Kalamazoo Country high school teachers on Apr 12. No applications received as of Apr 16. (portal doesn't open until May 1st)  
National ACS is putting together contingency plans for COVID. Regions were surveyed on preferences.
- b. HS teacher survey. No new responses since last month. Discuss the attached summary again for thoughts on next steps once we are able to operate more normally again (DW, **Appendix 2**).  
No new entries, no significant word back from the teachers beyond what has been previously reported  
DW will be able to reach out to the teachers over the next couple of months
- c. IPG status – Plan is to prepare a summary that can be submitted to ACS in the coming month. With no prospect of holding in-person gatherings for a while, we will have about \$1600 to spend on other options.  
Report is coming soon (DW and HJ)
- d. Education/Awards status - College Seniors, Teacher, Outstanding HS Students, 50/60 year members (LH)  
Two college Sr awards, WMU has submitted a candidate, K has not submitted yet (\$250 ea)  
11 teachers have submitted candidates for the high school award (\$25 Amazon card each)  
Teacher award (Bob Dick, Decatur, 40 years of teaching) \$300+AACT membership (\$45 value)
- e. Region Board request (LH, **Appendix 3**)  
Great Lakes Region (GLR) board request: website needs to be set up/maintained by a member of the region. Recruitment letter is attached as Appendix 3

## 6. Upcoming Events

- a. CCEW (LH, **Appendix 4**)  
Each section deciding on how, or whether or not, to move activities to online/virtual format.  
Earth Day global cleanup re-scheduled for Sept 19<sup>th</sup>.  
Plan is for KACS to restart sponsorship next year

## 7. New Business

- a. Should we link our KACS bank account with our Project SEED PayPal account or some reconfigured PayPal account? Advantages/Disadvantages? Will reduce the transaction fee that PayPal takes from 2.9 to 2.2%.  
Bank (PNC) only allows 1 paypal acct linked to a bank account. Idea would be to link the SEED PayPal account to more easily transfer the donations that roll in. No action at this time.

Will close down the PayPal account remaining from the landmark celebration, this is currently using the 1 PayPal account slot that PNC allows.

- b. Councilor Report from Spring meeting (LH)

"ACS Efforts and Resources on COVID-19 <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en.html>

- Even though council did not meet in person, 282 met via webinar.
- Council Policy Committee (CPC) met virtually (LH is member of CPC).
- Dues for 2021 will be unchanged (i.e., \$175/yr).
- The ACS is offering assistance to members adversely affected by COVID-19 and has made a large amount of scientific information freely available at the above link.

8. General Discussion

ET: Would like to gather ideas on reaching out to members. Perhaps look into making demo/teaching videos to help HS and college teachers reach out to students or other interested parties. General discussion demonstrates interest in exploring options to better reach out to high schools and perhaps even younger students. This would be a potential topic to present to the section members via the newsletter. "Partnering with Education"

9. Next Newsletter (MW) And website discussion

Presented the wireframe. Still would like more easily found archives, maybe want to have a restricted area as well. Goal is to try to finalize the website organization in the upcoming week.

10. Next Meeting: May 19th, 2020, 6:30 pm via webex or Kalsec's Todd Building if restrictions are lifted

Will stay with Webex until things change.

Meeting end: 8:16

## Appendix 1: Treasurer's Report

Current accounts summary:

PNC \$15855.42 There are currently no outstanding checks

Vanguard investments \$11338.21 in the VIPSX account  
\$17070.38 in the VWINX account  
\$28408.59 total account balance as of today

Comment on Vanguard investments: gain over the last month (!)

Restricted funds: **Project SEED: \$2050.12**  
**IPG: \$1637.83**

Income since March 17: ACS allotment of 6615.24  
ACS dues payment of 1199.50

Outgo since Feb 18: 1032.16 to Doug for IPG (Latitude 42 costs and wallet card mailing)

Old outstanding checks: None

Total outstanding: None

We have available:

PNC \$ 15,855.42

Dues collected by national response needed

Tax time – I intend to file 990-N, possibly new procedure of notifying national ACS.

## Appendix 2: S High School Teacher Survey Results

See Excel file for a better view

| KACS High School Teacher Survey Results |                     |  |        |                      |           |                                       |              |                            |           |
|---|---------------------|--|--------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Name                                    | School              | How can we help?   | Aware? | ACS Resources Which? | Interest? | Helping KACS?                         | Participate? | Scholarship Exam Computer? | Internet? |
| Diane Scheer                            | KAMSC               |  |        |                      | Somewhat  |                                       | Yes          | Yes                        | Yes       |
| Al Nieboer                              | Kalamazoo Christian | 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.  | Yes    | KACS Newsletter      | Very      | give advice                           | Yes          | Yes                        | Yes       |
| 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 of 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    | AACT                 | Somewhat  | give advice                           | Yes          | Yes                        | Yes       |
| Any Johnston                            | Hackett             |  | No     |                      |           |                                       | Yes          | Yes                        | Yes       |
| Michelle Mason                          | Portage Northern    | Career related info night or classroom presentation.   | Yes    |                      | Somewhat  | develop or pilot programs             | Yes          | Yes                        | Yes       |
| Heather Reeves                          | Mettawan            | 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                        | Yes       |
| Bob Dick                                | Decatur             | Chemists speak in chem classrooms?<br>Practical laboratory experiments?<br>Help in providing Chemmatters magazine. We don't have the resources to pay for many more.   | Yes    | Online ACS           | Somewhat  |                                       | Yes          | Yes                        | Yes       |
| Jon 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                        | Yes       |

Other advice

Long term sub at KAMSC. Will not continue in her role.

Please continue honoring the outstanding Chemistry student from each school, as nominated by each school's Chemistry teacher.

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 websites 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 that are in 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 WMU seems like it may be difficult for them. (However if they want the money that you are generously donating they need to show up....)

I appreciate the increase in communication and I will try and use as many resources as I can that you all can make available!

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.

### Appendix 3: Region Board request

Dear KACS EC:

As your representative to Great Lakes Region (GLR), and its chairman, I forward the message/plea, below, from the GLR Board.

Currently, GLR has a forum on the ACS Network, [acs.org/GLR](https://acs.org/GLR). GLR cannot exist forever with only this limited forum, as we'll need to link and archive GLRM 2021, 2023, etc. program info and other historical information. We're not so much concerned with past GLRM, but we will post the final programs, etc.

So, the question for the Kalamazoo EC to consider: is anyone on the EC willing to be GLR webmaster? If not, should we post this to the entire section membership? I'm not sure if simply forwarding the message is the best, but you may want to pick out the salient elements and then send an e-blast with a call to service.

The GLR webmaster will not need to design the GLR website, just maintain it. GLR is prepared to pay a vendor for design services and the GLR website committee will send a request for proposal (RFP) after a webmaster is on board; GLR cannot have a "free" site with random ads scrolling. It's a good idea to have a webmaster in place during the design, to make sure the webmaster is comfortable. Ideally, the webmaster should plan to do this for several years. As Lydia said in her previous request communication to the Board\*, the webmaster need not be a member of the GLR Board, but preferably a member of one of the 20 local sections in our GLR; **ACS membership is required.**

Do not hesitate to contact Joe Sabol ([jsabol@chem-consult.com](mailto:jsabol@chem-consult.com)), chair of the GLR website development committee, with any questions.

Thank you,  
Lydia

## Appendix 4: Earth Day 2020

Sunday, April 19, 2020

**KALAMAZOO**

50th Earth Day celebration to be week of virtual events

Environmentally focused activities, presentations planned

**Sophie Hillmeyer** [shillmeyer@mlive.com](mailto:shillmeyer@mlive.com)

This year, given the coronavirus emergency, Earth Day will be celebrated a little differently in Kalamazoo.

Instead of gearing up and heading outside for community events, residents can enjoy environmentally focused activities from their homes as part of virtual Earth Week celebrations.

Earth Week runs through Saturday, with Earth Day on Wednesday, and will feature dozens of interactive activities for all ages,

according to a news release from the organizing committee.

Earth Day first was held April 22, 1970.

Ever since, the holiday has been an opportunity to encourage communities to help protect and restore the planet.

Kalamazoo's virtual Earth Week events can be accessed through the Kalamazoo Earth Day website at [bit.ly/kaearthday](https://bit.ly/kaearthday).

Some events, such as "Generation Green New Deal" and the "Youth Climate Solidarity discussion," will take place on the Zoom video- chat platform at a designated time, while others, such as a printable coloring book, will be available at any time.

In the past, Earth Day in Kalamazoo has consisted of community celebrations such as a 5K run, a full day of activities at the Kalamazoo Nature Center and an Earth Day festival in Bronson Park.

Organizers still plan to host an in-person event once it is advisable, the release said.

The virtual event was organized by Kalamazoo Earth Day Committee, Kalamazoo Climate Crisis Coalition, Kalamazoo Nature Center, Hope for Creation and other local climate- conscious organizations, the release said.