

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Kalamazoo Section ACS
Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 6:30 pm
Café 36 (above Sawall's Health Foods), 2965 Oakland Dr.

Members present: Angela Willson-Conrad (AWC), Steve Secreast (SS), Doug Williams (DW), Lydia Hines (LH), Brian Eklov (BE), Greg Johnson (GJ), Andre Venter (AV)

Start time: 6:37 pm

End time: 7:45 pm

1. Secretary (Angela)

- **The April minutes were approved.** Mark has added all of the minutes, through March, to the website.

2. Treasurer (Andre)

- **Treasurer's report** – We are in good shape compared to our annual budget. SS had some questions about spending funds from the IPG grant for lab coats. The plan is to reimburse any funds spent. AV got notifications that there had been purchases made on our credit card. We do not have a credit card. Bank of America thinks this may have been due to the name of our account being too generic and we should change the account name to our tax id. This problem was cleared up and AV will work on changing the name. We also purchased all of the gift cards for the competitive exam awards this month. AV also received the Zoetis \$2000 check, which will be put in the Zoetis Activity Grant, so it is kept separate for the Poster event. Investments are up slightly and we have a surplus in our investments that we could choose to spend.
- **2018 Local Section Dues Form** – AV submitted our form requesting that National collect our Local Section dues at the time they collect National dues. Our 2017 allotment at this time showed an increase of over \$1000, due to our increase in local dues and/or more member contributors.
- **Treasurer transition** – Bill Schinzer should take over as soon as possible so that AV can help him while he is here with answering any questions. The two will get together to transition before our next (June) meeting.

3. Communications (Chris, Mark)

- **Timing for next newsletter** – Our goal is to have everything into Chris for the minutes by Monday, May 15th for publication the following week (May 22nd-ish). We would like to get this out before the holiday.
(send items for the newsletter to: ACSkzoo@gmail.com)
- **Website and Facebook page updates** – We are still in good shape with Mark updating the website. We have 394 likes on our Facebook.

4. Councilors (Lydia, Doug)

- **CCED (Lydia)** – LH has written her councilor report for the website and wrote a report for CCED as well. We had events at Celery Flats and the Nature Center with great support from WMU Chem Club. We learned that some of the demos at Celery Flats (Starch in foods and chromatography butterflies)

didn't work well outside on a windy day. A lot of parents asked for, and were given, information on more demos they could do at home. Our best guess is there were over 100 children at our Celery Flats event and over 250 at the Nature Center event.

- **March for Science (Doug)** – DW shared the text from his speech at March for Science. SS would like to include it in a newsletter. DW shared his thought process when writing this, including balancing the speech with ACS national's desire to stay neutral. DW asked us to review his speech to make sure there was nothing too controversial to put on our website. LH wanted to check that we are not indicating that ACS contributed to the level of some of the other groups mentioned. There were approximately 900 marchers at the Kalamazoo event. After receiving feedback, DW is going to look into editing his wording slightly and submitting it for print in our newsletter. DW received a lot of support and praise from the EC for participating in this event and sharing his speech with us.

5. Education Committee (Mike, James)

- **Competitive exam and awards ceremony (LH for James Kiddle)** – We had our award ceremony on Monday, May 8th. We had about 100 people at the ceremony. The crowd was energetic and excited about the event. There were five 50-year members present. Mean scores on the exam were about the same as previous years. There were a notable amount of ties for placing on the exam. We also tried the “outstanding teacher nomination by HS students” at the competitive exam and upon first examination it looks like we have a lot of good responses for potential future candidates. JK was also able to pull comments for this year's teacher.
- **Project SEED (Doug)** – All of our forms are in, on time, for Project SEED, including the form that says we are willing to match funds from ACS For Project SEED. The remaining part is to get the student's information (due June 2nd). We have one, possibly two, students from Comstock who are interested in participating as “Summer I students”. The teacher has confirmed that one of the students is very reliable and is filling out forms to show financial need. This student was offered a choice of projects first, one from K College and one from WMU. We received a reply from KAMSC that they do not have any eligible students.

6. Chair (Steve, Brian)

- **Kalamazoo Earth Day celebration** – We were a sponsor of the celebration in Bronson Park with an exhibitors booth. SS, DW and Tom Runge were able to demonstrate for approx. 150 kids. We were able to make connections with a few teachers who showed interest in the demonstration as well. It was a good outreach opportunity; a very successful event.
- **Science Café & Bridging the Gap mini-grant app due 31 May** – SS mentioned upcoming deadlines. AV mentioned Robert Root Bernstein, who has an interest in STEAM and could provide an interesting perspective on art and science. This year's Bridging the Gap theme is to increase membership. Maybe we could associate this with drawings for free student membership at Bronco Bash.

- **CERM mixer, June 9th** – SS shared a flyer with us for the event at the Central Regional Meeting. This event would include the Detroit, Midland, Western Michigan, and Kalamazoo sections and is free for anyone attending the Central Regional meeting, so SS would like to promote the event in our newsletter. This event was organized at the Leadership Conference and there are hopes that it will be an annual get together.
- **Committee on Chemical Abstract Services (Strategic Planning)** – Brian was at the committee meetings the same day as a Climate change protest. He said that it was very hot, but a very productive meeting. This committee has been designated to be a go-between for governance and publishing groups within ACS, which has not been done successfully in the past. New leadership is trying to give the committee a new purpose to improve some relationships that have been neglected. He learned while he was there that ACS On Campus requirements have been revised, which means we may now be eligible to participate – the waitlist is 18 to 24 months. If they came to Kalamazoo for this one or two day event they would want to include a wide range of institutions. Brian will resend the information and gauge our interest.

7. Student Chapters

- **K College (Audrey)** – No report.
- **WMU Chem Club (Greg)** – Greg (email: gregory.t.johnson@wmich.edu) joined our ranks as the new president of the WMU Chem Club. The EC thanked WMU Chem Club again for their participation in CCED events for the section. Gregory was also excited to hear about the IPG for lab coats and thinks this will be a good draw at Bronco Bash in the fall to recruit new students. He is in town for the summer and would gladly help coordinate the lab coats project. We wanted him to keep in mind that we are always here for financial support of any events throughout the school year as they plan social events and outreach. AV also thanked the Chem Club for their participation in the STEAM event at Art Hop. They were able to put together seven projects with the help of art and music students, which they shared with members of the community.
- **WMU Chem Grad Students Assoc. (Wisam)** – No report. Sarut is trying to step down from CGSA leadership. Wisam is included on our email distribution and has not responded.

8. New Business (All)

- **Strategic Planning** – SS mentioned that strategic planning was one of his goals as Chair. He would like to follow through with this, which means we should start working on this, especially if we want an ACS facilitator. The goal is to set a single goal for 3-5 years out that would give us a focus. He brought up the possibility of a meeting for this purpose.
- **ACS and Poster Event** – ACS On Campus? CAS? heard about our poster session and was interested in sponsoring it. However, we already had a commitment from Zoetis. SS followed through and they may be interested in sponsoring other events, like a Flint Water event.
- **P3 Award** – LH encouraged Elke Schoffers (ES) to submit to the 2017 Great Lakes Regional Meeting our Section's Poster Event for this award, as the

event is a cooperative one between our Local Section, industry (Zoetis) and Bell's.

- **Poster Session** – ES asked us to come up with a date for the 2017 Poster Session. SS suggested a Wednesday or Thursday in November. However, we may want to stay away from Thursdays due to live music in the room we book. We hope to get this booked soon as possible dates are limited.
- **Our next KACS EC meeting** will be Monday, June 12th at 6:30pm. Location: Barrett's Smokehouse in the plaza at Stadium and Drake.