**April 18, 2023**

**Meeting Minutes**

IN ATTENDANCE

Alysia Mandato, Ronghong Lin, Kristin Nuzzio, Kim Wozniak, Rich Danchik, Ed Zovinka, Biswanath Dutta, Kevin Noonan, Marsha Ann Grimminger, Toby Chapmant

WELCOME

Approval of Agenda - Rich moves

Approval of Minutes (March 15, 2023)

* Ronghong had one minor correction: 5 volunteers participated in the environmental group, not 12.
* Haitao moves to approve

CHAIR’S REPORT

* Ed reminds everyone to complete reporting forms for events
  + Ronghong, Ed, and Sam should complete one for PRSEF
* The next meeting is on May 16
  + While at PRSEF, Ed spoke with Dr. Nate McElroy – department chair at IUP
  + Ed proposes that the next meeting (live) be held at Levity Brewing in Indiana, PA
    - The meeting will also be hybrid – Levity has WiFi for streaming
    - Haitao shares that the Cleveland section meetings often start with a dinner and brief talk. Ed mentions that he will ask Nate to talk a bit about beer chemistry.
    - Alysia asks if this can be extended to general membership? Ed approves of the idea. Alysia will help create a graphic to advertise.
    - 6pm is agreed as the start time.
    - Ed asks if some funds should be used to pay for appetizers. The group approves.
* Summer Fellowship
  + We discussed funding a graduate student from Pittsburgh in previous meetings.
    - The executive committee received Liam Dugan as a nominee and approved of his selection.
    - Liam should be asked to present at CERM.
    - Sam asks whether we should invite Liam to SACP/SSP awards dinner.
      * Ed will try to extend an invitation. Rich and Kim both agree and should perhaps invite more individuals.
      * Haitao shares that MATHCOMPS (sponsored by the engineering society in Pittsburgh) invited high school students to their event, and students were very excited.
    - Kevin asks whether we are writing up something for Liam in the Crucible?
      * Ed agrees and asks Kevin to get a summary of his research and to send it to Alysia, Heather, and Niharika.

TREASURER’S REPORT

* Matt sent the report two days ago.
* $1000 was sent to Carnegie Science Center.
* Niharika was reimbursed for ACS Leadership.
* Reimbursement for 50/60/70 members completed
* Still working on some outstanding checks – Evonne (still missing, has not been cleared), Haitao
* Rich motions to accept Treasurer’s report

COUNCILOR’S REPORT

* Report from ACS Spring meeting is shared with the group
* The report should be included in the next Crucible.
* Highlights:
  + Society is doing well financially
  + ACS Conference (Spring) had 12623 atendees, 10792 in person (typo in Councilor’s report)
  + Dorothy Philips and Florian Schattenmann will be running this fall for 2024 president-elect
  + The Environmental group was renamed to Committee on Environment and Sustainability.
  + The number of Councilors per local section will be reassessed based on the new membership numbers.
    - Ed asks whether our section will be affected. We currently have 4 councilors.
    - Rich responds that he is uncertain. Will know on May 1.
  + If anyone wants to be involved in certain committees, there will be form to fill out their interest online. (link in report)
  + A speaker directory is being launched by the Committee on Local Section Activities.
    - Ronghong will be volunteering to be added to the directory.
  + All four Councilor’s from the Local Section were in attendance.
  + Haitao adds two proposals were also passed:
    - ACS National can strip Councilors of their duties
    - Movement to include representation from international members, motivated by high revenue from international sources.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating – Kim

* Nothing to report, waiting for May 1.

(Aside) Sam introduces Biswanath as a potential active member to the group.

(Aside) Alysia attended the Duquesne Undergrad Awards Symposium – several students signed up for ACS

PGH & DS Awards – Alysia

* Nothing to report

Financial – Heather/Kim

* Kim is getting paper statements and is still in contact with Matthew Snyder.
* Will send balance later.

Chem Olympiad/PJAS – Kevin

* 51 individuals participated
* Top 3 scores were sent to Alysia and Ed to be invited to the awards dinner
* The number of National students has gone down, based on membership and allotments for the number of members.
* The national nominees are taking the exam this weekend.
* Results will be available May 10.
* Kevin will write up the reporting form.

Project SEED – n/a

CERM 2024 – n/a

Crucible – Niharika

* Alysia indicates there was a miscommunication in the takeover. Asks whether it should still be sent out late.
  + Group agrees that it can be sent out now.
  + Alysia will still send out the Crucible this week (late).
* Ronghong asks when the deadline for submission is. Alysia responds that it is 5 days before the end of the month (ideally).

NCW & SciTech Days – Evonne

* Ed indicates Evonne could not make it, but did send him an email.
* Nothing to report for NCW.
* We have received our check from SSP. Will get the check to the Carnegie Science Center.

PRSEF – Sam

* Ed, Ronghong, and Sam attended PRSEF senior division.
* Grace Wang from Franklin Regional was chosen as the winner – had a first author paper.
* She did her research on superabsorbent polymers.
* No honorable mention selected.

Strategic Planning – Kim/Ronghong

* Kim and Ronghong will chat and schedule a meeting for the planning team.

(Aside) Kim wanted to share the list of ChemLuminary awards from last time. Kim will send the list out to see if events can qualify for a nomination.

On the Road

* Still planned in Waynesburg sometime in the Fall.

Chemists Celebrate Earth Week – Alysia

* (Happy Earth Week!)
* Alysia contacted all teachers she had contact with and sent a link for the illustrated poetry contest.
  + Deadline is next Sunday. Last year, we received ~85 entries.
* Alysia assembled 100 bioluminscent experiment kits.
  + Worked with UPitt student affiliates group – 50 people helped
* Kits were sent to 8 teachers. Other kits were distributed to parents.
* Alysia will submit a report and announce it in the May Crucible.

(Aside) Toby asks who is taking over the student group. Alysia responds that UPitt sent out a job posting. Michele is applying.

GROUP REPORTS

WCC – Michelle

* Michelle is not here, but an event was held 3rd week in March.

Environmental – Ronghong

* Dr. Bo Hu presented the first lecture on April 5.
* There were 2 attendees – Ronghong and Heather
  + Group discussed how to improve turnout
  + May be partly a timing/scheduling issue
  + Also need to work on technical aspects and communication
    - Alysia – Kim sent out a call for helping with social media, but people have been busy with the semester.
    - Sam can help create a QR code in the future as well as help with IT.
  + Ronghong also created an award plaque for speakers and should send in a reimbursement request.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Alysia attended ACS Undergraduate Regional Meeting at Duquesne – another good opportunity for judges
* Toby – there was a poll in the Crucible for Carnegie library access for ACS journals. People want to be able to do this remotely. Unfortunately, this is not possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Joint SSP/SACP award dinner is on May 24. Invitees include 3 top ChemOlympiad, 10 Chem club winners, Grace, Liam.
  + Alysia will print certificates.
  + Email Ed if desire to attend.

Sam moves to adjourn.