

American Chemical Society Puget Sound Section (PSS)
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2016
Jonathan's Notes MaLeah's Notes

Call to order

Sheri Tonn called to order the regular meeting of the ACS Executive Committee at 7:00pm on February 8th, 2016 at North Seattle Community College.

Roll call

The following persons were present: Sheri Tonn*, Karen Goodwin*, Cheryl Bick*, MaLeah Huggins*, Carole Berg*, Jonathan Clark*, Mark Wicholas*, Greg Milligan*, Craig Fryhle*, Despina Strong*, Amar Yahiaoui*, Neal Yakelis*, Nadine Gruhn*, Charity Lovitt, Stephanie Hemminson, and David Munch.

Executive Board members absent: Gary Christian*, Jennie Mayer*, Dharshi Bopegedera*

*indicates voting member per bylaws

Jonathan took notes until MaLeah arrived at 7:16pm.

MaLeah sent out the January minutes via email before the meeting. Corrections were made to the January minutes at the meeting. Stephanie moved to approve the January minutes with the corrections. Craig seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with corrections. ***Note: Stephanie is not a member of the Executive Committee and is ineligible to so move on motions on the table.***

Secretary's report

No secretary's report was given.

Treasurer's report

The Puget Sound Section paid a number of small items including the deposit for the reservation for the Women's Retreat. The budget was discussed. Five changes to the budget were approved and noted to be added to the budget. They included: 50/60 year dinner from 900 to 500 dollars. UGR, 3000 to 3500 dollars. WCC 2000 to 3500 dollars. Public Relations 1000 to 500 dollars and meetings 2000 to 1000 dollars. Karen moved to approve the treasurer's report. Amar seconded the approval of Treasurers report. The motion passed.

The Finance Committee gave a report. Transition towards QuickBooks is still underway.

Mark moved to accept the Finance Report. Despina seconded the motion. The motion to accept the treasurer's report passed.

Carole announced that she will be stepping down as the Treasurer at some point this year. The Executive Committee thanked Carole for all of her efforts as Treasurer.

Announcements/Reports

- Education Committee
 - Despina updated the group on the Chemistry Olympiad. The committee has started to work on the local exam. The local Chemistry Olympiad will be held March 1-31 and Nationals will be the last week of April.

- Scholarship information for students in two-year and four-year programs studying chemistry is now available on the PSS website. Updated forms have been sent to Jonathan and posted on the website. A generic email address (educationcommittee@pugetsound.sites.acs.org) was added. Completed applications are due March 1, 2016. Despina talked about a soft deadline and would be open to extending it if there was trouble getting the submissions. The main concern is the new email address, but Despina did report that two schools have already successfully submitted forms, Evergreen and PLU.
- Career/employment survey
 - Craig handed out a draft overview of the responses received by the survey. There were 280 responses, but not everyone completed the survey or answered every question. Some interesting trends: 2/3 were male, 2/3 had their Ph.D degree, 2/3 were employed full-time, 10% were Canadian, 85% were employed with their training and doing what they wanted, 20 individuals were interested in a mentor and 55 individuals were willing to serve as mentors. The data is still in the process of being analyzed and put onto in graph form for better visualization for a poster. It was suggested that a comparison of the survey data be compared to local section data and national data to identify any interesting trends. Resources for unemployed individuals were discussed. ACS offers free membership for unemployed individuals for up to two years.
- Women's chemist retreat
 - Stephanie reported on the women's chemist retreat. She brought drafts of flyers for corporate sponsorship and retreat information. A logo is in the process of being created along with a website with the goal having their own website hosting domain sometime in the future. The Portland section submitted a grant through the ACS for 1,000 dollars. Stephanie reported that there was interest from the bordering Wa/Id section. She would like to see sections send members, fully subsidized, this year and then make their own retreat in a couple of years. The working idea is a program in a box that anyone could use. Stephanie also mentioned that with the data and research she had collected over the past couple of years, they were going to apply for some regional and national awards for the program. We suggested the Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity.
 - People should get in contact with Stephanie if they know of any businesses for sponsorship or individuals to be on the career panel.
 - A question of ownership was raised. Who takes ownership of the program? It started in the Puget Sound Section but is moving towards areas with more interest. Program in a box was mentioned with ACS taking ownership. Also, there was a lot of talk about it coming back to the Puget Sound Section or that the documents are kept with the programs founding section.
 - Stephanie is already looking at next year. Graduate students have a higher than normal turnover rate and in years past faculty have not lasted for more than a year or two. Stephanie will be starting her new job soon in Portland and would love to be involved with the program next year, but as a Portland Section member. She discussed hosting collaboratively with the Puget Sound Section.

- AWIS
 - Charity reported that the AWIS event would be held on March 16th. A poster has not been finalized, but Charity said that she will email it out as soon as it was complete. So far the panel includes: Sandi Doughton from the Seattle Times, Jody Miller who is the Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Management and Renate Hartog who is a research scientist with the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network.
 - Charity is still working on recruiting two more people for the panel. Please get in contact with her if you know of a paleoseismologist or geochemist who would be interested in being a panelist.
 - Despina reminded the members that AWIS had been pre-approved for \$100 from the budget.

New Business

- Website update
 - Jonathan asked the group for website feedback. It was formally decided to switch to Google Groups and a new email (acs-pss-executive-committee@googlegroups.com) will be emailed shortly for executive members to use for internal communication. People who are not on the Executive Committee who wish to email the Executive Committee should use the regular Executive Committee email (ExecutiveCommittee@pugetsound.sites.acs.org). People should check their spam filter. Ideas were discussed on how to prevent people from using the old email address. The three main ideas were; sending out warnings, blocking people from using and possibly forwarding.
- Spring fling
 - Carol was asked to begin constructing a spring fling event. Top ideas were: vodka tasting, a winery event and chocolate tasting. Also, dates in June and July were discussed for a joint section event at Maryhill Winery. An agreement was not reached.
- Career event
 - Despina was interested in finding out who was coming to the career event. 2-3 members at the meeting were attending and one individual was bringing some of their students. A concern about the career event being in the middle of the week was raised. There are pros and cons about the time, but how it is being scheduled now works.
- Annual report
 - Greg agreed to review the annual report before Cheryl submits it to ACS.
- Leadership conference
 - Chery also thanked the section for sending her to the leadership conference. She said it was one of the best run conferences she had been too. Cheryl was also presented her past chair pin.

Adjournment

The meeting was called to an end at 8:17pm.

Councilor/Term: Mark Wicholas (#1, 2017), Gregory Milligan (#2, 2018), Craig Fryhle (#3, 2016), Gary Christian (#4, 2017), Despina Strong (#5, 2018) Alternate Councilor/Term: Jennie Mayer (#1, 2017), Amar Yahiaoui (#2, 2018), Neal Yakelis (#3, 2016), Dharshi Bopegedera (#4, 2017), Nadine E. Gruhn (#5, 2018)