1. The minutes from the January meeting were approved.
2. Chair-elect and Nominating Committee – Although the by-laws require a 5-year period between serving as chair or chair-elect and running for election for these two offices, the executive committee can appoint anyone to fill an empty officer’s position without regards to the last time they served in that position. Jeff Trent has volunteered to fill the empty chair-elect position. While he cannot be elected as chair-elect at this time, the executive committee can appoint him to fill the empty chair-elect slot. However, both chair and chair-elect positions will need to be filled in the upcoming 2018 election of section officers. The nominating committee should be composed of people outside the executive committee. It was suggested that the chair-elect and the past-chair oversee the nominating committee to ensure that this election we have enough candidates to fill all the officers’ positions. Terry Huston pointed out that although in the past election, we voted for both councilors and alternate councilors, according to the by-laws, only the councilor position is open for election. The person who receives the most votes becomes the councilor, and the person who receives the next highest amount of votes becomes the alternate councilor. Puran De will double check this to make sure we are following the by-laws. Puran moved that the executive committee appoint Jeff Trent as chair-elect, Kelly Moran seconded, and the motion was passed without opposition. Congratulations, Jeff!
3. Annual Reports – The chair’s and treasurer’s annual reports for 2017 are ready to be sent to ACS National. Both reports need to be approved by a councilor. Joan Esson volunteered to review and approve the annual reports.

4. 2018 Budget. Treasurer Kelly Moran and Treasurer-elect Bob Kroshefsky submitted a proposal for the 2018 section budget. The amounts for budgeted for regular meetings and meal subsidies were discussed, but left as proposed in the budget proposal. Poster session awards of $1200 were discussed. As discussed in the January 12 executive committee meeting, the executive committee moved $1000 from the mentorship program to the Younger Chemists Committee, resulting in a mentorship program budget of $1000 and a Younger Chemists Committee budget of $3000.

Kelly passed out a sheet on the ACS Senior Chemist Committee; the local Senior Chemists Committee will receive $750 from ACS National to send a member to the ACS New Orleans meeting. Motion to approve Kelly Moran as our representative to the Senior Chemists Committee in New Orleans and for her to submit any extra expenses to the Columbus Section treasurer was approved.

CERM Toledo is cancelled; the next CERM meeting will be the 2019 meeting in Midland, MI. The possibility of budgeting some funds to send representatives there was discussed, but tabled for a future executive committee meeting. Jim Wasil proposed increasing the CERM Steering Committee budget from $500 to $1000. Kelly has paid $100 toward travel expenses for the CERM Steering Committee. The CERM 2020 Steering Committee has a grant of $2000 from ACS National for expenses. Bob and Kelly will work on a spreadsheet for CERM.

A motion was made to pass the 2018 budget with the following changes: Mentorship program $1000 (from $2000); CERM Steering Committee $1000 (from $500); and Younger Chemists Committee $3000 (from $2000). The motion was passed without opposition.

5. Younger Chemists Committee – the 2018 budget for the YCC was already covered in the section budget discussion. The next event for the YCC is the February 28th brewery tour at Land Grant Brewers. The YCC will provide appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages from 6-9 p.m. for 45-50 people for a cost of $250. They will limit the event to the first 50 people to RSVP. The poster session on March 31st needs judges. Puran will make a pitch for judges before the talk tonight. The YCC website has more information on upcoming events.

6. Meeting Fees – Waiving the first meeting fee for new members of the Columbus Section was discussed. Bob proposed mentioning that the first meeting for new members is complementary on the meeting announcement. Motion to waive the meeting fee for the first meeting of a new member of the Columbus section proposed by Bob, seconded by Krishna, passed without opposition.

Other potential targets for meeting fee waivers were discussed, including college professors; especially professors who bring students to meetings, the students themselves, and people invited by the executive committee to attend the meeting. Joan brought up the idea of reduced meeting fees for people buying a subscription to a series of meetings. The idea of other forms of free or reduced meeting fees was tabled for discussion at the next executive committee meeting.

7. Terry Huston, Chair of the Patterson-Crane Award committee for the Columbus Section brought the attention of the executive committee to a problem with this year’s award. The Columbus and Dayton ACS sections, which together sponsor the Patterson-Crane Award, have agreed to give the award out at the CERM meeting. However, because CERM Toledo was canceled, the Dayton chair of the Patterson-Crane Award committee told this year’s awardee that the Patterson-Crane Award would be given at this year’s national ACS meeting in Boston. He made this decision without consulting the other members of the award committee. Terry felt that the
award should be given locally, so that the members of the Dayton and Columbus sections could attend, and that the Dayton chair of the Patterson-Crane Award committee should have consulted with other committee members – in particular those in Columbus – before deciding to hold the award ceremony in Boston. The executive committee expressed support for Terry on this matter and will consider this situation during the March executive committee meeting.

8. Due to lack of time, an extensive discussion of the website and reservations and long-term planning were postponed to a future executive committee meeting. However, the possibility of holding a baseball game meeting was discussed. The OSU spring game in April is $5 per ticket but is sold out; Clippers games cost $10 per ticket. The June-August timeframe was considered for the baseball meeting; this will be discussed in greater detail in the March executive committee meeting.

9. Technology needs for the section – a computer is not needed for the treasurer at the present time.

10. Chair’s note – Puran contacted Mary Wahba regarding her needs for the Chemistry Olympiad and she has no current needs.

The executive committee meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.