



ACS Columbus Local Section Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes

July 21, 2021

Attending:

Clay Harris	Chair
Christopher Hadad	Past Chair
Barbara Ambrose	Secretary
Kayla Kasper	Councilor
Joan Esson	Councilor

Absent:

Robert Woodman	Alternate Councilor
Krishna Bobba	Alternate Councilor
Virginia Songstad	Councilor
Don Songstad	Alternate Councilor
Jeff Trent	Chair-elect
Bob Kroshefsky	Treasurer
Damilola Daramola	Treasurer-elect

Meeting attendees arrived at 6 p.m. However, without a quorum, the meeting could not be called to order. The five attendees discussed the agenda provided by Clay.

Minutes – The minutes from June will need to be approved at the next meeting with a quorum of ExComm members.

Old Business

- 1.) Reminder: ACS Core Value – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect (DEIR) – Clay reminded the section of the Foundational DEIR course for ACS volunteers. All are encouraged to take this two-hour course – Clay included information in the meeting agenda. ExComm members who have taken the course – Clay, Jeff, and Joan.
- 2.) Treasurer Report – Bob (submitted to Clay in advance)
 - a) The Operating Funds summary shows where we are and, clearly, because of the double annual allotment from National, our income has greatly exceeded our expenses at this point in time.
 - b) We have a nominal \$2,900 in our checking account but there is still \$950 in checks to 2021 outstanding students that needs to be cashed. On the other hand, all but one of the delayed 2020 outstanding student checks have been processed. All 2021 State Science Day checks have been processed as well.
 - c) As for the investments summary, our main Vanguard accounts have had outstanding performance so far this year with 15+ and 10+ percentage growth. The Columbus Foundation account has also has good growth of almost 8%, increasing in value more than what we would normally disburse as our share of the Patterson-Crane Award. We should not expect similar

growth rates in the second half of 2021 as the pandemic and perverse national politics could have significant negative effects.

- d) In summary, our section's net worth is over \$400,000 even if we were to write off the entire \$20,000 we loaned to CERM2020 and it is expected that the section will be getting back about \$5,000 of that loan. The Central Region treasurer needs to do two things to help us close out the books on CERM.
- 3.) CERM + GLRM 2021 – Jeff, Bob and Christopher participated in a 6/10 Zoom meeting of the Central Region ACS (CRACS) board to provide context on any financial questions. Once CRACS fulfills its financial obligation to the Columbus Section, Bob can transfer funds and we can close the books.
- 4.) Awards:
 - a) The Columbus Section Award – every 2 years @ \$2000 value – Bob will contact Hogarth and Dave Speth about this. Bob has received e-mail responses from them.
 - b) The Patterson-Crane Award with the Dayton section every 2 years @ \$3000 and travel and lodging to CERM meeting (usually less than \$2000). Dayton would like to keep the current 3 nominations and award the winner from these. We could contact the CERM2022 committee to arrange a dedicated symposium honoring the winner. The ExComm agreed to go along with Dayton on this, so Chris will facilitate the award. Chris has contacted two other people to form an awards committee for the Columbus Section for this award. Once he has these people on board, he will contact Dayton and ask them to form a three-person awards committee. Then the six people on the awards committee can review the nominees and decide on the awardee.
 - c) The High School Teacher of the Year Award – every year @ \$1000 to the teacher and \$300 to the school. Joan will follow up with Jeff Bracken on this award. Joan reached out, but he has not responded.
 - d) Outstanding Student Awards – every year – Certificates and checks have been sent to all 2021 Outstanding Student awardees. In addition, all but one of the 2020 awardees have also been contacted and sent their delayed items.
- 5.) Local section website update and plan – The *ad hoc* website committee consists of Dami, Joan, Kayla, Costas, Barb, Bob and Dominique. The communications team (including Dominique) met on June 25th to review website progress.

Summary below:

- The website is ready to launch after any additional comments from the executive board.
- Registration page is a work in progress.
- Transition to the actual URL will be complete after all corrections are made.

Website looks good – Christopher mentioned that the drop-down menus have problems “sticking” on some browsers. Dominique is looking into this. The registration and payment portion needs to be ready when we have our first, post-COVID, in-person event.

- 6.) File Repository –

Clay submitted request to TechSoup for validation of non-profit status – Google to follow. This can take up to 2-3 weeks to be validated. We will get e-mail addresses, storage space, and free software from this. The sites under consideration are:

 - a) Google Workspace for Non-profits – <https://www.google.com/nonprofits/offerings/workspace/>
 - b) TechSoup – <https://www.techsoup.org/>

- TechSoup needs our IRS non-profit number in order to validate our group; Clay will contact Bob to get this number.

- 7.) Outreach update and plan – Kaarina – no report
- 8.) Retreat for Strategic Planning for the Columbus Section –
Per the retreat, 7 people (Kaarina, Kostas, Kayla, Bob, Joan, Chris and Dami) have responded and the dates that agreed with everyone's schedule were:
Aug 8, 29
Sept 12, 19
Oct 17, 24, 31
Nov 7, 14, 21
Bob, Kayla, and Clay met with the ACS National facilitator. The cost is \$6,000. This includes all of the materials, prework, two facilitators, and a report out after the retreat. Space is limited to 15 with time commitments being four 2.5-hour sessions with each on separate days.
- 9.) Mechanism for soliciting proposals for financial support from the section – Clay – no progress.
- Clay will draft a potential form for social media push for proposals and Christopher will review it.– No progress
- 10.) ACS Younger Chemists Committee – Kayla proposed holding a YCC event at Topgolf and requested an estimate of the cost from Topgolf. For 30 people, the cost would be \$1900. This includes golf bays, drinks and a buffet dinner. Golf bays hold 6 people and rent for \$130. However, events with over 24 people are required to have the buffet. For 24 people and under drinks would cost \$288, but this price includes alcoholic drinks. Chris and Clay were concerned about liability issues if the section sponsored an event that included alcohol. Kayla and Clay suggested charging a nominal registration fee of \$10 to ensure commitment to the event.
- 11.) President-elect talk in October - Barb contacted Christine Casey at CAS and got contact information for the person responsible for managing the ACS president-elect's schedule. She has initiated contact with the person at the ACS, but has not yet heard back.

New Business

- 1.) Discussion on post-COVID Chem Club revitalization funding from Columbus ACS - Clay and Chris
 - a) Add ACS memberships as part of Junior/Senior Awards – Bob has a list for these awards.
 - b) List of student affiliates – Barb will try to find this information.
 - c) Chris suggested the section provide pizza for chem club meetings.
 - d) OSU has two active chemistry clubs: the ACS student affiliates and the Chem and Biochem club.
 - e) Students get to attend section dinner meetings for \$5 – we should advertise this.
- 2.) Elections – Open positions: Chair-elect, Treasurer-elect, Secretary and Councilor/Alternate Councilor. Joan Esson and Don Songstad are the Councilor/Alternate Councilor whose positions are up for election this year. Joan expressed interest in running again for Councilor. The section has missed the Dec. 1st deadline for reporting the results of its election for the past few years. Barb will prepare an election announcement to be sent out by Robert Bird in August or early September. However, personal contact is the best way to recruit new ExComm members.

The current meeting plan:

July – Second part of joint International Society of Automation (ISA)/ACS presentation on Automation and Instrumentation in the Chemical Industry
August – Gene Therapy – Erandi DeSilva from Forge Biotech

September – Panel for options with a career in chemistry

October – Let's have it virtual! CAS - Nope? National President Elect – Probably not in person?

November

December

The possibility of holding a hybrid virtual/in-person meeting in August was discussed, but it did not seem feasible. The September panel meeting appeared to be a better candidate for the section's first post-COVID in-person meeting. Joan will look into the availability of meeting space at Otterbein. The mini-ExComm also discussed holding this meeting at the Hofbrauhaus.

The discussion ended around 7 p.m. As the meeting was never formally started, it could not be adjourned.