



ACS Columbus Local Section Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes

August 18, 2021

Attending (*via Zoom*):

Clay Harris	Chair
Christopher Hadad	Past-chair
Bob Kroshefsky	Treasurer
Damilola Daramola	Treasurer-elect
Barbara Ambrose	Secretary
Kayla Kasper	Councilor
Joan Esson	Councilor

Guest:

Kaarina Lokko

Absent:

Robert Woodman	Alternate Councilor
Don Songstad	Alternate Councilor
Jeff Trent	Chair-elect
Virginia Songstad	Councilor
Krishna Bobba	Alternate Councilor

Minutes – The amended minutes from June were approved unanimously after a motion by Christopher, seconded by Joan.

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’s Report – Bob (submitted to Clay in advance)
 - a) Bob has transferred \$8,974.09 from the CERM2020 account into our Operating Fund account and removed the \$20,000 loan to the committee from our assets, thus closing the books on CERM2020. Our total loss was \$11,025.91, which was primarily driven by the almost \$10,000 purchase of the H2OQ science packs for local schools, from which we may yet derive some benefit.
 - b) All 2021 Outstanding Student and State Science Day award checks have been processed.
 - c) Total section assets are approaching \$414,000.
- 3.) Awards:
 - a) The Columbus Section Award – every 2 years @ \$2000 value – Bob will contact Lewis 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. The ExComm agreed to go along with Dayton on this, so Chris will facilitate the award. Chris has contacted 2 other people to form an awards committee for the Columbus section for this award. Once he has these 2 people on board, he will contact Dayton and ask them to form a 3 person awards committee. Then the 6 people on the awards committee can review the nominees and decide on the awardee. Suggestion: Give this award at CERM 2020 with dedicated session to the awardee with a few other relevant presentations.
- c) The High School 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. July>
- d) Outstanding Student Awards – every year – Bob has sent certificates and checks to all 2021 Outstanding Student awardees.
- 4.) Communications Committee Update– The *ad hoc* website committee consists of Dami, Joan, Kayla, Kostas, 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 1st in-person event.
- [Http://columbus.midnightgeni.us/](http://columbus.midnightgeni.us/)
- 5.) File Repository – Clay reports:
- a) TechSoup non-profit validation complete.
 - b) Google Workspace non-profit status validation complete.
 - c) Awaiting profile review confirmation at Google; they need a website.
 - d) Google Workspace for Non-profits – <https://www.google.com/nonprofits/offerings/workspace/>
 - e) TechSoup – <https://www.techsoup.org/>
- 6.) Outreach update and plan –
- a) Kaarina is still planning on holding the poetry contest and will prepare an announcement for distribution to local libraries and school districts.
 - b) National Chemistry Week – Kaarina is not sure if in-person activities will be possible. In-person activities are easier for the students. Any in-person activities could follow the same rules as the Columbus School system. Chris and Kayla offered to help with Zoom and video, if in-person is not possible.
 - c) Money is needed for cash prizes for the contest.
- 7.) Retreat for Strategic Planning for the Columbus Section –
- a) After getting back to the ACS facilitators, Clay found out that we need to schedule the four 2.5 hour sessions within a 2 week period. What are our options? Another survey?
 - b) 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

- c) Bob, Kayla, and Clay met *via* Zoom with the ACS National facilitator. The cost is \$6000. This includes all of the materials, prework, 2 facilitators, and a report after the retreat. Space is limited to 15 with time commitments being four 2.5-hour sessions with each on separate days.
- d) Mechanism for soliciting proposals for financial support from the section – Clay
 - a) Once website is live - Social media push with rolling submissions
 - b) Clay to draft something...Actually In Progress
- e) ACS Younger Chemists Committee – Kayla proposed holding a YCC event at Topgolf, and requested an estimate of the cost from Topgolf. For 30 people attending, 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.
- f) 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.
- g) 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 2 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.
 - f) Motion to contribute approximately \$350 per local university to assist their chemistry clubs. OSU would have a larger contribution. Made by Joan, seconded by Bob, passed unanimously. Bob to use his contact list to find out how much each chemistry department could actually use before we cut the checks to them.
- h) Elections – Open positions: Chair-elect; Treasurer-elect; Secretary; and Councilor/Alternative Councilor. Joan Esson and Don Songstad are the Councilor/Alternative 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. Bob has contact information of in-person event attendees.

New Business

- 1) Columbus Section 50, 60, 70-year honorees – What do we do this year?
- 2) Project SEED and the ACS Scholars program, both of which we've supported in the past. This year?

- Motion to contribute \$5,000 each to these 2 programs, made by Bob, seconded by Kayla, passed unanimously.
- 3) Councilor Virginia Songstad is unable to attend the councilor's meeting associated with the ACS national fall meeting. Alternate Councilor Krishna Bobba will attend in her place.
- 4) Adjourn meeting

The current meeting plan:

August – Gene Therapy – Erandi DeSilva from Forge Biotech

September – Panel for options with a career in chemistry at Otterbein. Joan has made the room reservations and arranged for catering for dinner at \$23/person. Various ways of reaching out to get panelists were discussed.

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

November –

December –

Other Ideas:

What can you do with a career in chemistry?

Nestle – Letter to orgs

Greif

Emerging trends in education – virtual reality

Act for Chemistry (ACS newsletter) – issues in Washington? Virginia sent initial email

OLSA at ACS

Reminders from Agenda:

- DIER Course:

As we continue to advance the core value of diversity, equity, inclusion and respect, we are pleased to inform you that a foundational DEIR course for ACS volunteer leaders (including the ACS Board of Directors, committee members, local section and technical division officers, international chapter officers, and faculty advisors of student chapters) and all Journal Editors along with course facilitators - will launch on March 17, 2021. This two-hour course is entitled Leading Inclusively: Beyond Lip Service, and was developed by La'Wana Harris, a Certified Diversity Executive, an ICF Credentialed Coach, and a global leadership development professional.

Many of your peers helped to test this course and the feedback we received has been incorporated. In short, the course will assist you with:

- establishing a common understanding around diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect at ACS.
- challenging assumptions and invite new perspectives to welcome, embrace, and value the full spectrum of human diversity.

- identifying key opportunities in your role for supporting the ACS commitment to create a more diverse and inclusive chemistry enterprise.

While the course is not mandatory, we strongly encourage all current ACS leaders, course facilitators and Journal Editors to make this a priority and further commit to helping us to advance DEIR within ACS.

The course will be delivered via Zoom and each session is limited to 50 people per session. To view the course schedule and to register, please visit: [Leading Inclusively: Beyond Lip Service](#). Prior to completing the course you will be required to:

- view a 4 minute video from ACS CEO Tom Connelly
- complete a COMMIT self-assessment
- read a provided article

The pre-work should take no more than 30 minutes.

If you have any trouble registering for the course, please contact registrar@acs.org.