

**American Chemical Society
Columbus Section
Executive Committee Meeting
Virtual Meeting
December 11, 2023**

Members attending

Alicia Friedman	Chair
Barbara Ambrose	Chair-elect
Jeff Trent	Past Chair
Bob Kroshefsky	Treasurer
David Speth	Secretary
Clay Harris	Councilor
Kayla Kasper	Councilor
Krishna Bobba	Alternate Councilor
Chris Hadad	Alternate Councilor
Chris Martin	Incoming Chair-elect
Seth Barrett	Incoming Secretary
Steve Trohalaki	Incoming Alternate Councilor

Absent

Joan Esson	Councilor
Angela Howard	Treasurer-elect
Satish Garre	Alternate Councilor

The meeting was called to order at 7:02

The meeting began with each member of the 2023 and 2024 Executive Committees introducing themselves to the rest of the group. This will help the newly elected members understand the resources available for the existing committee members.

The minutes from the 10-23-2023 meeting were approved without modification.

The October meeting was very successful. We had 18 members of the section receive 50/60/70 year membership recognition with 4 awardees attending the meeting. Certificates were mailed to those not in attendance. A thank you letter to Chemical Abstracts has been delivered.

There was no formal treasurer's report. See below for new business.

Old Business

The election for Executive Committee members for 2024 was completed. A tie for Alternate Councilor was resolved by a vote of the existing Executive Committee. New Officers elected are:

Chris Martin	Chair-elect
Seth Barrett	Secretary
Dave Speth	Treasurer-elect
Kayla Kasper	Councilor
Steve Trohalaki	Alternate Councilor

Terms for each of these officers will begin January 1, 2024, and end December 31, 2024. The Councilor/Alternate Councilor terms are for three years beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2026.

Kaarina Lokko contributed a report on Chemistry Week activities.

Update for National Chemistry Week (NCW) related activities:

This year's theme was "The Healing Power of Chemistry." We were able to partner with four different entities this year to augment NCW activities. Along with the Young Professionals group at CAS, local Girl Scouts groups, Columbus Metropolitan and Worthington libraries, we were able to distribute 250 NCW booklets.

The Girl Scouts used our booklets to go along with working toward one of their badges for making bandages/Band-Aids. Our theme of the Healing Power of Chemistry" fit well for the badge. Multiple troops worked together and utilized our booklets. There were 63 total Girl Scout participants.

Each year the Columbus Section has been donating materials (booklets and experimental materials) for the Young Professionals group at CAS for an outreach event at Riverview International Center. This year our donation reached about 60-80 participants.

If anyone is able to volunteer with the Girl Scouts, please let me know. They meet the 4th Monday of the month in Dublin.

Also if anyone is able to help with outreach in general, please let me know. I could use some help.

New Business

Chair Alicia Friedman noted that we still had \$6,000 in our budget for donations that had not been allocated. Working with Councilor Joan Esson, they identified several local organizations' needs in the local section area that we could meet.

Donation/Funding Requests

Planthers – Ohio Dominican's Plant and Garden Club (Jesa Moore)

Expand the scope of a traditional garden club to include more in-depth scientific studies of soil health, and subsequently, thriving plants for many interesting uses. The goal is to provide the necessary tools, environments, instruments and instruction to chemistry and biology students and/or club members who wish to participate in this project, and to ensure their success in this endeavor.

[Here is the list of necessary supplies we have compiled to date:](#)

1. Students will require laboratory grade **soil pH and composition test kit(s) @\$105** in order to conduct their studies to properly understand the components necessary for healthy soil and what amendments may be needed to increase soil health.
2. Students will need a **soil probe@ \$129.00** in order to get adequate soil samples at proper depths in various soil compositions.
3. Students will need a **Clevenger distillation apparatus @ \$50.00** to extract essential oils from multiple plant species at a time.
4. The greenhouse will require a **20-pound, steel propane tank @ \$23.99** to connect to a propane heater to supplement heat in the deep winter months to keep plants alive and healthy.
5. One 15000 BTU portable propane tank top heater@ **\$49.98.**

Subtotal: \$358

Total Request: \$500, to include multiple test kits, propane tanks and glassware as needed.

Voted Contribution: \$500

Mount Vernon High School (Kristin Hofferberth)

Purchase of 12 new molecular model kits for Mount Vernon High School. Our current model kits are aging and incomplete so a new classroom set of models would have a substantial positive impact on our chemistry teaching. The model kits I have selected are MicroSnatoms – a set of models that are held together by magnets to emphasize the fact that forming bonds releases energy (sound!) while breaking bonds requires energy to overcome the attractions between atoms. With this unique design, not only will we have a complete set of molecular models for our students to use, but we gain a new tool to address a major misconception in chemistry learning. <https://snatoms.com/products/microsnatoms>

Subtotal: \$79.99 each x 12

Total Request: \$959.88, free shipping

Voted Contribution: \$959.88

Biological & Physical Sciences Honors POD (CSCC) (Angela Howard)

We like to travel to local STEM related businesses such as Abbott and COSI but haven't traveled since COVID-19. We would like to travel to Abbott this spring. To secure a bus to travel back and forth from the facility would cost roughly \$250-300.

Total Request: We could use \$250, if possible.

Voted Contribution: \$250

Ohio State FOCUS (Females of Chemistry Uniting Scientists) (Anne Buck/Hannah Schorr)

Every spring, FOCUS puts on a symposium, though many of them have been online due to COVID restrictions. This year will be our 2nd in-person symposium since the pandemic. We are excited to make it engaging, fun, and informative. The general schedule for this symposium is as follows: On Thursday, March 21st, 2024, we will have a career panel in the afternoon with some invited chemists from a variety of fields and backgrounds. This is followed by a social hour with the panelists so that students can have more one-on-one networking and engagement. Friday, March 22nd, 2024 is the main day of the symposium. The day starts with three selected student talks, approximately 20 minutes each. There is then a two-hour-long poster session in the afternoon and the day concludes with talks from our two

invited speakers. This year we have one speaker from a government lab and one from an industrial setting.

We would love it if the local ACS section would sponsor the poster session for our annual symposium. For this, we would appreciate if we could provide snacks, drinks, and coffee for attendees to enjoy while browsing the posters, and we would also like to provide prizes for the top three posters and the top scoring undergraduate poster. We try to encourage undergraduates especially to present at this event as we believe it is a great chance for them to get experience presenting their research and sharing their scientific knowledge. Last year we had just around 30 posters presented and this year we are hoping to grow that number further.

Additionally, we would like to invite any members who may wish to attend to the poster session. The poster session will be held on Friday, March 22 2024, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. We would also like to know if any local ACS members would be interested in volunteering to act as a poster judge for this event. While this is entirely not required, we think it would be great to get the chance to present our research to individuals we don't run into day to day and get some outside perspectives for the students who choose to present.

Poster Session:	\$100
Cookies, chips, snacks – Sam's Club	
Coffee and Drinks	\$100
Advertisement – Banner, flyers (ACS sponsor logo included)	\$25
First Place Poster Prize	\$100
Second Place Poster Prize	\$50
Third Place Poster Prize	\$25
Top Undergrad Poster	\$50
Total	\$450

Total Request: \$450

Voted Contribution: \$450

Undergrad Chemistry Research for Honors Students at Ohio Dominican (Chris Martin & John Marazita)

I would like to submit an application on behalf of the Honors students at Ohio Dominican University performing undergraduate research under the direction of STEM faculty - specifically chemistry faculty members. One student is investigating soil composition on the effect of isoflavone production in red clover and needs money for the supplies for the clover growing (\$200). Another is synthesizing and testing a method for detecting a common date rape drug and needs a reagent to complete the synthesis (\$100). Finally, one student is researching novel electrodes and needs disposable petri dishes (\$350). This total is \$650 and will go directly to student research costs.

Total Request: \$650 total (3 student research projects)

Voted Contribution: \$650

Otterbein Students Travelling to Spring ACS Meeting (Joan Esson)

Three of our student chapter executive board members will be going to present both a student chapter poster and their research. Would the section support that since they'll be presenting about the student chapter?

Total Request: ?? (New Orleans)

Voted Contribution: \$750 (\$250 per student)

CSCC STEM Club/Future Scientists of Ohio Scholarship Program (Laura Shady)

We have around 6-7 meetings with STEM career professionals per semester and we try to go on at least one field experience per semester. In addition, we have celebrations for our graduates and participate in community outreach activities. Funding for our organization would really help us to pay for our graduation celebrations and for field trips to local STEM Industries.

In addition, we also have a STEM scholarship that our Foundation Office is helping us to fund. About 15 years ago, we created the Future Scientists of Ohio Scholars Program, a full-tuition scholarship program for students pursuing our Associate of Science degree who plan to pursue a STEM Bachelor's degree. This program was initially funded by the Choose Ohio First grant through the Ohio Department of Higher Education and then we applied for and received a 5-year grant from NSF (SSTEM Grant). At one point we had enough funding to provide 45 new students full tuition scholarships annually. However, now we only receive grant funding for about 10-15 new scholarships per year. We hope to increase our budget within the Foundation so that we can offer more scholarships to deserving STEM scholars.

Would the section support that since they'll be presenting about the student chapter?

Total Request: Any Funding Appreciated

Voted Contribution: \$1000

Muskingum Scientific Art Competition (Seth Barrett)

Held in April. Cover cost of supplies (wood for stands and extra lighting), light refreshments, and art competition winner prizes.

Total Request: Rough Estimate < \$500

Voted Contribution: \$500

Muskingum Sisterhood ReCoded Camp (Seth Barrett)

Weeklong summer coding camp for middle school girls held in August. Help offset some event expenses.

Total Request: Rough Estimate < \$500

Voted Contribution: \$500

Muskingum Be WISE Camp (Seth Barrett)

Weeklong residential summer camp for middle school girls interested in STEM. Help offset some event expenses.

Total Request: Rough Estimate < \$500

Voted Contribution: \$500

Krishna Bobba suggested that we notify CERM of our interest in hosting a regional meeting since the 2020 meeting was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bob Kroshefsky suggested that he retain the management of our investment accounts since he has the experience and contacts. He will do so in consultation with 2024 Treasurer Angela Howard and 2024 Treasurer-elect David Speth. A vote on this proposal will be taken in January 2024 when the 2024 budget is reviewed.

Dave Speth suggested that the chair and chair-elect check the ACS website to prepare for filing the annual report. The website is sometimes difficult to manage so preparation is helpful. Entries are also limited so short descriptions are suggested.

The ACS Leadership Development Institute will be held in January. It was suggested that, if he can attend, 2024 Chair-elect Chris Martin register by the December 15th deadline.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.