

ACS-GHS Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2020

1. **Welcome/Introductions:**

Meeting convened at 6:34 p.m. over Blackboard (Online) by Crystal Young

Attendees:

Board Members:	Position	General Attendees:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crystal Young	Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Catherine Faler
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Friesen	Chair-Elect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Houston
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snigdha Chennamaneni	Past Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Germack
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Ramirez	Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Reed Effland
<input type="checkbox"/> Sam Lewis	Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amiee Modic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Smith Callahan	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roxie Allen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David E. Thompson	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexis Symons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eme Abu	Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Yang
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kiresha Johnson	Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Singleton	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mamie Moy	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Dennis	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amber Hinkle	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Burnley	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sunny Tang	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Javoris Hollingsworth	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Valerie Lafitte	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Kerry Spilker	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Botto	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Malloy	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.C. Kuo	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Needed for Quorum:	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quorum Met		<input type="checkbox"/>

2. **Adoption of March Meeting Minutes:** Crystal Young

Minutes approved

3. **Councilor Report:** Mamie Moy

Due will remain the same.

Council could not meet due to pandemic. Some actions of Council were completed by Council Policy Committee in a special council meeting. Handled dues escalation etc.

Council is required to meet twice annually.

Council would typically down select on President Elect Nominees. Council will vote via electronic voting.

Council was able to meet the bylaws of The Society by holding the special council meeting.

ACS National is being as innovative and flexible as they can during this time.

Many local sections are struggling to do anything. We as a local section are being innovative and proactive in our approach to serving our section. **KUDOS ALL**

Interesting Note: Another district had a tie for District Director, after further investigation, the bylaws state that all three candidates go on the ballot.

As we work our way back to “normal”, Amber has a feeling that LSAC will be reaching out to local sections to find out what sections had done during the lockdown (e.g. if we had done anything new/different, how we managed). We should begin to document what we’ve been up to so that we share that with other local sections.

Lisa mentioned that Board meetings have been held virtually during this time since the spring meeting was cancelled. There will be another virtual meeting in June and the Board may discuss the possibility of holding the fall meeting.

4. **Committee Updates:**

I. Programming Committee: Dawn Friesen

- Younger Chemists Committee (YCC): Kevin Ramirez
- Women Chemists Committee (WCC): Valerie Lafitte
- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC): Javoris Hollingsworth
- Engineering Council of Houston Liaison (ECH): Larry Dennis

Larry contacted ECH and attended their phone conference meeting on April 2nd

They had been discussing that the state science fair was cancelling and if a virtual option was viable. They weren’t sure.

Banquet is scheduled for May 28th – may postpone for a few months, but there are hopes to keep the date. Pending decision given the times.

Typically, at banquet they present science fair awards, and have students present their research. Current officers are to be voted on, all currents to rollover to next year. Motion to be presents at May meeting.

Climate change event upcoming, contacted ACS email to share with membership. Next meeting virtually beginning of May.

- Senior Chemists Committee (SCC): Carolyn Burnley

Gauging interest for later in the year.
Due to pandemic, no solid plans.
Proposing a brunch or midday event.

- Seminars & Summer Social: Dawn Friesen

on hold until we have more insight into the state of things.

No response from NASA, very likely due to pandemic

Possible to virtual events, Dawn is open but is apprehensive about how many digital events are happening currently

Snigdha suggests holding a virtual coffee/drinks events for networking, socializing. Held as a check-in type meeting/networking event. Discuss how things are going, how pandemic has impacted your sector, how has ACS impacted your industry, etc.

Are people are inundated with online meetings? Very possibly yes.

Having during the work day is beneficial since we don't cut into people's personal time, but scheduling is tricky since people have work during business hours. We would need to give plenty of notice so that we can capture participants and be mindful of everyone's schedule.

Adequate scheduling would be a large consideration in gathering attendees.

We have a ZOOM option through Nationals, but there are security concerns.

Many people are targeting late summer, early fall, but there is a great chance that could fall through.

There are many health concerns

If we plan something, it can be a smaller event with a shorter lead time so cancelling isn't such a big event. Events with more flexibility e.g. BBQ

- Science Café: Crystal Young

Postponed until fall, date TBA. Venue is closed, currently.

Snigdha is proposing doing “speed interviews”, like 5 or 10 mins
Crystal & Kevin volunteered to start that off

II. Awards Committee: Lisa Houston

Committee is secured, initial meeting to be announced.
Next step is to organize into canvassing committees

III. Education Committee: Roxie Allen

▪ Chemistry Olympiad: Jerry Yang

offering online part 1 test. We had 14 students score high enough to represent us at the National level. Take top 350 only.
multiple choice sections and free answer sections only.
Talks are happening for virtual study camp.
we have already completed our local section tests.

▪ Project Seed: Carolyn Burnley & Javoris Hollingsworth

Class of 10 projects, 6 accepted, 2 pending, 2 rejected.
because of COVID, all projects could be in jeopardy.
There is a lot of interest, however everything is up in the air with the pandemic ongoing.
Many colleges are closing and rejecting previously approved projects.

▪ AACT Liaison: Amiee Modic

AACT opened resources to all teachers, continued to have webinars on how to implement their resources.
Continue to have webinars on how to implement their resources.
AACT2 biennial has, unfortunately, been cancelled due to pandemic
Considering holding a virtual professional development conference for members and nonmembers, for free.

▪ High School Chemistry Clubs Liaison: ??

▪ Middle School Liaison: ??

- Scholarship Exam: Tai-Yen

has been cancelled since last meeting.
working on getting refunds to those who paid

Action Item:

We should discuss on how we can settle ties in the future.

- Student Affiliates: Kiresha Johnson

Resse to (possibly) attend virtual event with Crystal

What progress has been made on helping students virtually?
So far, we need to solidify what medium we'd be using and how we should get students to sign up for times. Crystal has volunteered to serve as a resource if there is a need.

- Science Fairs: Valerie Lafitte

IV. Community Affairs: Kerry Spilker

- Chemists Celebrate Earth Week & National Chemistry Week (CCEW & NCW): Kiresha Johnson and Kerry Spilker

Virtual Earth Day has started and lasted until the 25th. Posted on social media, posted challenges, webinars, activities that relates to the theme.

Amiee to look for reviewers for chemistry poems that have come in so far. We could post on social media and see whose poems could get the most likes as a way to vote. Could be a great way to drive engagement and participation.

Reese & Laura working together to post on our social medias online challenges, seminars, etc. to maintain a presence during these times.

- Kids & Chemistry: Bob Botto
- Education Rainbow Challenge: Eme Abu
- Industry Relations: J.C. Kuo

Negative oil prices today...

Many businesses are hurting and many are going out of business because of what's going on. The job market is bleak, many students are having difficulty securing a job after graduation. This is in all fields.

V. Communications & Technology: Laura Smith Callahan

▪ Newsletter Updates

Cotton has temporarily stepped back from the newsletter

To have anything included on the newsletter, please send those to LsmithCallahan@gmail.com

Kevin should be uploading membership rolls monthly when they come in from nationals

VI. Strategic Planning: Amber Hinkle

many local sections are struggling to do anything during this time.

as we start to get back to normal, LSAC will start reaching out to local sections. We should take note of what we've done during this time so that we can report back.

Board meetings have been held virtually, for now.

no new things to report on as of now. Internal business has been moving

A call to decide on the Fall meeting will be happening soon? Very dependent on Gov. Newsome

VII. Membership: David Germack

We are behind on getting out welcome letters for the quarter, but great strides have been made to catch up in the new days.

If anyone has any ideas for the membership committee, please pass them along to David.

VIII. Financial Advisory: Sunny Tang

Wondering if the tax return has been filed for the season.

After filing, Sunny to gather committee to discuss finances.

5. **Other Business:**

- A. UH Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering Ad department reached out and asked to advertise in our newsletter what are is our policy on advertisements?

ACTION ITEM

Communications Committee should come up with a policy and present it to the board.

policy could involve finances or service to the section (e.g. sponsoring a speaker) to handle these issues.

Laura will head the effort to formulate the policy.
Please contact Laura if you'd like to help in this effort.

Laura to head "Advertisement Policy Committee"

Carolyn has offered to volunteer on this "Policy Committee"

Dawn has volunteered as well

Lisa has volunteered

B. Virtual Platforms, Moving Forward

Blackboard is comfortable for Crystal, but if we have alternative solutions...

Sunny is very happy with his ZOOM experience.

There are some security concerns with using ZOOM. (e.g. ZOOM bombing)

The host is able to password protect the meeting, pains should be taken to conceal the password and share only with members. The issue with that is our board meetings are open to the public and we would need to share that information with our membership.

We have the availability of a ZOOM license through Nationals.

Carolyn has suggested GoToMeeting

ZOOM costs \$16/month

GoToMeeting costs \$19/month

BlueJeans is another service.

Alexis suggests Google Hangouts, which is free.

If you have suggestions on what virtual platforms to use, please send them on to Crystal before next Monday.

Meeting Adjourned At:	8:01 p.m.
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