

ACS-GHS July Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2021

1. **Welcome/Introductions:**

Meeting convened at 6:32 p.m. over Zoom (Online) by Dawn Friesen.

Attendees:

Board Members:	Position	Active Volunteers:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Friesen	Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Amiee Modic – AACT Liaison
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eme Abu	Chair-Elect	<input type="checkbox"/> Tai-Yen Chen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crystal Young	Past Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Yang
<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Ramirez	Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Cotton Star
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sam Lewis	Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maryanne Mores
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Smith Callahan	Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Kiresha Johnson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David E. Thompson	Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Usha Devathosh
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lynn Foster	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safia Mohamed
<input type="checkbox"/> Loïc Samuel	Director	
<input type="checkbox"/> David Germack	Councilor	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mamie Moy	Councilor	General Attendees:
<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Dennis	Councilor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catherine Faler
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amber Hinkle	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Burnley	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Valerie Lafitte	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Javoris Hollingsworth	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snigdha Chennamaneni	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kerry Spilker	Alt. Councilor; Community Affairs Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Botto	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Malloy	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> VACANT	Alt. Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Houston	Awards Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Roxie Allen	Education Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>
Needed for Quorum:	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quorum Met		<input type="checkbox"/>

2. **Adoption of May and June 2021 Meeting Minutes:** Dawn Friesen

ACTION ITEM: Kevin to send out May and June Minutes to voting Board members via email.

3. **Announcement:** Dawn Friesen

Congratulations to Amber Hinkle for receiving the 2022 ACS National Award for Volunteer Service! Amber will be delivering the keynote address at the Fall 2022 ChemLuminary Awards Ceremony in Chicago.

4. **Budget Update:** Sam Lewis

Double annual allotment from ACS National has been deposited into the Section's account, a couple of reimbursements have been processed.

Lisa has created a PayPal button for the Fall Wine Tasting, so if there is activity on the PayPal account that is why.

Laura – some PayPal program we are involved in is ending, unclear what it is or if it will affect the GHS. Laura will forward the email to Sam for review.

5. **Committee Updates:**

I. Programming Committee: Eme Abu

- Younger Chemists Committee (YCC): Safia Mohamed

Need help with YCC mentorship event, would like to get participant numbers up. Would like board to reach out to their network and share social media posts to drum up interest.

Date set for August 21. Reached out to ACS National YCC – Chair has volunteer to participate.

Also reached out to ACS Career Consultants who would also like to help. Contacted multiple ACS local sections who are sharing with their members as well, haven't had much response from Brazosport section so will circle back.

Date just confirmed today, yet to be posted. Dawn talked to Brazosport chair recently and they were holding off on publicizing event through Dow network because date was still uncertain.

Safia will reach out to BLS with the confirmed date.

Discussion regarding event time – Safia planning to send a doodle poll to participants, but recommendation was to select a time and publicize along with the date. Carolyn suggested before mid-day, and David T. recommended having a set end time as well, so participants know the time commitment.

Based on discussion, event will be 1 hr long starting at 11 am on Saturday, Aug 21.

- Women Chemists Committee (WCC): Lynn Foster

Report on joint virtual networking event with AWIS – July 13th. Went well, more people RSVP'd than actually attended. Hope to continue working with AWIS in future.

Dawn – one of the attendees is the incoming Secretary for the UH ACS Student Chapter, may be worth putting her in touch with Loic?

- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC): Javoris Hollingsworth

MAC has new volunteer member – Sharman. Plan to have a meeting this week to talk and plan events. Hope to get the committee working again as covid eases up.

Dawn has sent information to Javoris on upcoming social media events highlighting minority communities in chemistry – Black in Chem Week (in August) and LatinXChem Twitter Poster Conference (September). Dawn to send event information to Laura for sharing on GHS social media as well.

- Engineering Council of Houston Liaison (ECH): Larry Dennis

No updates.

- Senior Chemists Committee (SCC): Carolyn Burnley

No updates.

- Fall Social: Eme Abu

- Thursday Sept 23rd at 6 pm (approx. 1.5 hr - 2 hr)
- Planning for 20 people
- Selection of 5 wines + charcuterie boards
- Total cost is approximately \$50/person
- Event posted on website, will charge \$30/person, limit 2 tickets per purchase
- **Need PayPal button code to collect payment**

- Seminars: Dawn Friesen

Cheng and Rogge seminars up on YouTube channel

Upcoming Seminars:

Madeleine Swortwood (SHSU) – Tuesday, August 10th

Jason Hein (UBC) – Date TBD

Sent speaker invitations to:

Roger Bertholf – Houston Methodist (Alzheimer disease)

Allison Campbell – PNNL (biomaterials/advocacy). Received autoresponse – retired from PNNL. Dawn planned to find alternate speaker but Lisa has a contact who knows Allison, she will follow up and see if new contact information is available.

- Science Café:

Science Café: The Chemistry and Craft of Bread Making

Guest Speaker: Emily Jane Buehler

To be held Thursday September 30, 2021 from 6-7 pm CDT via Zoom

Kerry also calling around bakeries in Houston to possibly host a live event in conjunction with virtual event (may be asynchronous). Looking specifically into White Elm Café Bakery, they have wifi but Kerry was not sure how to have multiple people join presentation at same time.

Dawn suggested using a wall projector instead of multiple logins from same location. Lisa has the GHS projector. Catherine and Dawn may also have projectors if needed. Kerry would also like the ACS tablecloth – Crystal has it. Kerry also looking into buying refreshments (pastry/appetizers/beverages) for attendees.

Virtual event is ready to publicize, Kerry will get info to Dawn for the website.

II. Awards Committee: Lisa Houston

Met last week, getting candidates for section awards. Deadline is Sept 15th, get suggestions for nominees to Lisa ASAP and they will take it from there.

SWRM nomination packages in progress, first is due Aug 1, rest later in Aug.

SWRM Student Travel Scholarships deadline to SWRM is Sept 29. Two nomination spots available for GHS. Set section deadline for September 15.

III. Education Committee: Roxie Allen

- Chemistry Olympiad: Jerry Yang
- Project Seed: Carolyn Burnley & Javoris Hollingsworth

Javoris – talked to Project SEED students today, professionals meeting with students talking about careers, mentoring, and networks in STEM. 3 virtual cabins, similar format as last year. Hope is for students to apply virtual skills in person next year.

Carolyn - Over 400 students in program, 4th week. Going well, but students seem less attentive this year than last year in virtual mode. One more week to go in program this year.

- AACT Liaison: Amiee Modic
- High School Chemistry Clubs Liaison: Usha Devathosh
- Middle School Liaison: Kiresha Johnson
- Scholarship Exam: Tai-Yen Chen
- Student Affiliates: Loïc Samuel
- Science Fairs: ECH Liaison, Larry Dennis

IV. Community Affairs: Kerry Spilker

- NCW

Will have a poster contest this year.

Cool Chemistry at HMNS is cancelled due to Covid, Chemistry Hall is closed.

Working with HMNS on Boy Scout merit badge event in fall. Kerry has taught multiple times, trying to get in this year. If not, next year – not sure how they are planning to host.

- Kids & Chemistry: Bob Botto

San Jac planning STEM Expo for fall, 3 events.

Kerry contacted Beyond Benign, they have resources for green chemistry education from K to adult. Contacted Aimee Modic to see if any interest in AACT working together on event to train teachers in conjunction with Houston Arboretum.

- Education Rainbow Challenge: Eme Abu

No date yet, looking at potentially November.

- Industry Relations: Kevin Ramirez

- Government Affairs: Kerry Spilker

- Other Community Affairs:

Kerry looking to organize an “Ask a Scientist” event, potentially with a virtual tour of Argonne National Labs (part of Community Affairs goals for 2021).

Kerry contacted Argonne National Lab, Randall E. Winans, Senior Chemist. Trying to get permission for live tour with GoPro camera or similar.

Biography: Randall Winans and coworkers have developed and applied methods to understand the fundamental chemistry of complex disordered systems, such as catalysts, soot, coals, heavy petroleum, and carbons. Chemistry is combined with characterization techniques, including mass spectrometry, NMR, and small angle X-ray scattering and spectroscopy.

Education: Chemistry, B.S., Michigan Technological University, 1971; Physical Organic Chemistry, Ph.D., Cornell University, 1975

Also contacted Argonne National Lab Tour department to see if could be set up that way.

Will talk with Roxie/Aimee to try and get list of ~10 seed questions to ask after tour to help keep discussion moving.

Lisa – Randy is in Energy & Fuels division; they are looking to do more video capture projects and work with local sections. Will share contacts/ideas and try to get cooperation going between ENFL and GHS. Also noted that Randy is retiring soon so will have to act relatively quickly.

V. Communications & Technology: Laura Smith Callahan

- Zoom account up for renewal before July 20, 2021 – will roll over on Laura’s card. Plan to find alternate payment method for next year if we wish to continue on Zoom.

Let Laura know if there is a need for more communication on existing events or if you want specific reposts of other accounts.

VI. Nominations Committee: Crystal Young

No nominations received on GHS email. No other updates. Let Crystal know if there are specific people she could reach out to about running.

VII. Strategic Planning: Amber Hinkle

Amber will reach out in August to committees responsible for Strategic Goals to review progress on annual goals at September board meeting.

Reminder to councilors about electronic credentials, mock council meetings are scheduled Jul 29 and Aug 12 and you should choose one to attend. Registering attendance at mock council gets you access credentials for official meeting.

Mamie did not get the councilor notice; Amber will forward it.

VIII. Membership: David Germack

No updates from David. Dawn noted that Membership Affairs has released official toolkit about new memberships for 2022.

IX. Financial Advisory: Larry Dennis

X. Fundraising (Ad hoc): Snigdha Chennamaneni

Working on raising funds for Awards Ceremony, involved with organization and planning. Will be finalizing event date shortly, next committee meeting upcoming.

Lisa: Awards committee has given fundraising committee two specific time windows to evaluate availability for event, hope to confirm date shortly. Dawn noted that there has been at least one email to GHS asking about Award Ceremony date.

6. **Other Business:**

2021 ChemLuminary Awards:

- GHS is a finalist for Outstanding Performance - Large Size Category. Awards ceremony to be held as a virtual event during NCW in October 2021.

ACS Science Coaches in GHS?

- Email from local teacher looking to partner with an ACS Science Coach if any are available in the GHS. Crystal has partnered with a teacher before and would be happy to provide more information about the program. Individual teachers will have different needs and will also depend on what the individual coach's experience is. Lisa suggests getting more information on what teacher's needs are and see if we can match with people on our volunteer list.

Dawn will follow up by email to ask specifically what they are looking for (e.g. mentorship, safety guidance, help with classroom demos).

Potential Empowering Women in Organic Chemistry (EWOC) Chapter?

- Catherine Faler/Hayley Brown interested in organizing an EWOC chapter and activities, to meet monthly. Mix of professional and social events to get women together and keep them in the Organic chemistry pipeline. Would like to make sure that aren't running into/over GHS plans. Thinking about first virtual networking in September. Mamie – how would it be structured within ACS? Catherine – in partnership with ACS Division of Organic Chemistry and AWIS Philadelphia. Mamie – suggested that special topic sub-group on organic chemistry could also be an option, as allowed by GHS bylaws.

Community Connections – New Platform for Reporting and ChemLuminary Nominations

- Had 8 unknown board members listed for our section – had them removed, but also removed all non-elected committee chairs. Safia has been added back, Dawn will work on getting Lisa added back as well.

Consider volunteer needs for fall events – reach out/advertise needs early

Meeting Adjourned At: 7:31 p.m.
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