

## ACS-GHS Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2020

1. **Welcome/Introductions:**

Meeting convened at **6:32** 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 type="checkbox"/> David Germack
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Ramirez	Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Reed Effland
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sam Lewis	Treasurer	<input 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"/> Dorina Carrillo-Gamboa (March Guest Speaker)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eme Abu	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexis Symons (March New Volunteer!!)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kiresha Johnson	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Yang
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Singleton	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mamie Moy	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Dennis	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amber Hinkle	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Burnley	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input 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"/>
<b>Needed for Quorum:</b>	<b>11</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Quorum Met</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Adopted, pending submitted changes.

3. **AlliantGroup Collaboration:** Dorina Carrillo-Gamboa (Guest Speaker & UST Alumna!)

AlliantGroup is a provider of tax services that is interested in working together on various projects.

AlliantGroup participates in an event with the Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce called STEAMtown USA where sponsors go to teach a STEAM class once a month. They bring in various speakers.

Dorina offered to have us join their STEAMtown class at future events and teach a Chemistry class.

[FROM SLIDE] “main philanthropic mission is giving back to the community by supporting STEM education and other STEM related initiatives”

AlliantGroup employs Chemists in the arena of research for clients, and we can possibly find a speaker for our events. Especially for chemists working in non-lab settings.

Dorina mentioned that she is open to forwarding us to potential speakers.

In the past, AlliantGroup has held classes of about 12 3<sup>rd</sup> grade girls with various learning activities performed during instruction.

Dorina is also open to sponsoring our future events and partner.

Follow link for more info: <https://youtu.be/k1lwqxBZGPs>

#### 4. **Committee Updates:**

##### I. Programming Committee: Dawn Friesen

- Younger Chemists Committee (YCC): Kevin Ramirez

Held post career fair happy hour.

Very well attended (20+ participants).

Good that the location was close to the venue. Ran concurrently with the end of the career fair to capture participants leaving the fair. Event summary up in FORMS

- Women Chemists Committee (WCC): Valerie Lafitte

- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC): Javoris Hollingsworth

Dawn, Snigdha, Reese, Javoris and another member (Jeff Dalh?) talked to students at Kempner HS and it was very well received. Talk to a Forensics class and another class.

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

Crystal & Catherine give Larry ECH contact details, however no one has replied

Lisa and Mamie get notices that the ECH holds monthly meetings. Lisa to forward the contact info and notices to Larry.

Glen Carlson sends out the ECH meeting notices.

- Senior Chemists Committee (SCC): Carolyn Burnley – **GROUP INACTIVE?**

Carolyn volunteered to do an interest group, with the pandemic happening all events are postponed.

Carolyn is planning an event for some time later in the year.

- Seminars & Summer Social: Crystal Young

Brazosport is interested in joining us on the summer social again

Seminars: NASA has received follow-up information.

- Science Café: Crystal Young

Location: A 2<sup>nd</sup> Cup

Date: May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Time: 9 – noon ???

Speaker: Weihong Zhand, PhD Biochemistry

Budget: \$500 ???

Notes:

Potential Collaboration with Brazosport

Considering postponing the event until the summer or fall

Crystal to reach out to speaker and venue to reschedule

## II. Awards Committee: Lisa Houston

Confirmed with committee that has agreed to serve.

**Begin canvassing for candidates.**

## III. Education Committee: Roxie Allen

- Chemistry Olympiad: Jerry Yang  
March 6<sup>th</sup>, 172 participants.  
This year we only have 14 slots.  
National competition delayed one week (Apr 26 – May 3). Lab portion has been eliminated.  
Jerry printing certificates for participants.
- Project Seed: Carolyn Burnley & Javoris Hollingsworth  
12 projects were submitted for approval.  
Accepting applications from March 31 - April 30, 2020 for students.  
Please send student recommendations to Carolyn.  
Expected to be very competitive due to stipend increase.
- AACT Liaison: Amiee Modic

Trying to be on the free online learning community.  
Poetry contest coming up.

- High School Chemistry Clubs Liaison: Jamie Flint  
Jamie is out of the country.
- Middle School Liaison: ??
- Scholarship Exam: Tai-Yen  
Scheduled for May 16. Not cancelled just yet, but possibly pending.

Only about 20 students registered.

The question came up whether a student in an accelerated program is allowed to use funds towards his accelerated program.

These decisions (and others of this nature) will be overseen by the Chair(s) [Past, Current, Elect] and Education committee chair

**Action Item:**

**Add this to guidelines:**

**Education “appeals” will be overseen by the Chair(s) [Past, Current, Elect], Education committee chair, (and Treasurer?)**

- Student Affiliates: Kiresha Johnson  
With the schools shut down, many events have been cancelled/postponed.

We, as a local section, should try to be a resource for local students.

If we can have a google hangout for tutoring, etc.

Resse can contact directly, or Laura can do a blast.

Roxie can compile emails/info to distribute.

Send out an eBlast to students/student chapters to advertise that we are looking into providing learning assistance services to local HS/College/University students.

Try to contact teachers/student chapters to help us distribute information/advertisement.

Send informational out to ask who would like to be a mentor.

- Science Fairs: Valerie Lafitte

IV. Community Affairs: Kerry Spilker

i. Scout Fair - Cancelled

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

Check with Local Activities Committee, they have many ideas so we don't have to reinvent the wheel

Roxie's school gives out an "Earth Tip" which is a PowerPoint with tips and video links to use as a launchpad for ideas

Lisa asked if we can we do a virtual earth day event? Through YouTube or any other medium?

Is it possible to give parents a video for parents to do at home with their kids?

Resse to research some activities towards this end.

Roxie to forward information

Alexis suggested TikTok demos to reach the younger crowd

Resse and Alexis to be connected to collaborate on virtual options

Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Kids & Chemistry: Bob Botto
- Education Rainbow Challenge: Eme Abu

Looking at November for possible events

- Industry Relations: J.C. Kuo

It's bad out there.

Many companies have scaled back to reduce exposure and many more are scoping layoffs to maintain margins.

The stock market is also hurting which bundles into many of the issues the companies are facing.

V. Communications & Technology: Laura Smith Callahan

Blasts were done for career fair and YCC happy hour.

As events come up, Laura will be sure to distribute.

Forward articles so that we can continue provide information in quarantine.

We can ask members what we can help them with or what we are looking to provide.

Include a “From the President” to reassure members.

VI. Strategic Planning: Amber Hinkle

Communications & Public Relations Committee [at National level] (CPRC) put together strategic plan

**Action Item:**

**Attach CPRC Strategic Plan to the minutes**

Eme volunteered to be a secondary nominator for Kerry.

Lisa to release new guidelines for 2021.

VII. Membership: David Germack

VIII. Financial Advisory: Sunny Tang

Budget is on the dropbox.

With less activities this year, we'll be looking for ways to spend budget money.

Sam to send the budget to the voting members for approval.

**Action Item:**

**Pending budget approval**

Bank accounts have been settled, reimbursements have been processed and will be processed as they come in.

Tax filing to occur in the next week by Sam.

5. **Other Business:**

A. P.O. Box Keys

Chair, Secretary, and proximity board member.

Dawn to hold a key this year.

B. ACS Inventory

Keep dropbox inventory updated!

C. Tech Connect Fair

FROM SLIDE:

Fridays in June, July & August 1-4 pm (not official schedule)

Students rotate around stations 20 mins per station

Various locations: Community centers in district H (i.e. Montie Beach, Moody Park, Proctor Plaza)

Invites to participate in the coming 1 month(ish)

<https://www.houstontx.gov/council/h/tech-connect.html>

Scheduled for summer but up in the air currently.

D. Snigdha requests \$3150 for Italian Festival for Fall 2020

**Request approved**

E. Passport Program

Need to more heavily publicize program and how to get virtual attendees.

F. Transition Documents

Committee chairs to draft transition documents to be collected by 2020 year end.

G. Career Fair Summary

65 participants.

Tommie will send slides out to participants.

3 speakers-Dr. Samina Azad, Dr. Amanda Brown, Jahari Soward held Panel sessions.

Employers-S&S Professional Services, UST Dow, Covestro, Kelly Scientific, Elements Staffing.

Resume Reviews-thanks Crystal for stepping up and working Academic Crystal gave an overview about local section activities and about Brazosport section.

Dawn, Catherine, Kevin-helped with GHS booth and we handed over passports.

H. COVID-19 Update

March meeting moved online to follow Nationals and err on the side of caution. Follow the recommendations of the City of Houston, CDC, etc.

April 4<sup>th</sup>, boy scouts fair cancelled, ChE event postponed.

Discovery Green events have been cancelled until the end of April.

All City of Houston Events have been cancelled until the end of April.

GHS Board Meetings to be moved online for the foreseeable future.

We'll need to reschedule many of our events, and when quarantine lifts it is possible that events will be plentiful.

**Meeting Adjourned At:** 8:04 p.m.