

ACS-GHS Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2020

1. **Welcome/Introductions:**

Meeting convened at 6:33 p.m. over Google Meet (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 type="checkbox"/> Sam Lewis | Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Amiee Modic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Smith Callahan | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Roxie Allen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David E. Thompson | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Alexis Symons |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eme Abu | Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Yang |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kiresha Johnson | Director | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saghar Mowlazadeh Haghighi (May Volunteer!!!) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Singleton | Councilor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shih-Feng Yu |
| <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"/> |
| Needed for Quorum: | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quorum Met | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

Minutes approved via email voting on May 22nd

3. **Upcoming Elections:** Crystal Young

Upcoming National Elections

Snigdha suggests that we can include information about the candidates for the National election in our upcoming newsletter about local section open positions.

Dawn shared a notice from Mamie with us that we are restricted in giving speaking space to certain candidates and not all. We cannot give preference to candidates, so proceed with caution.

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

ECH are doing a virtual awards celebration over ZOOM

Keynote speaker is Dr. Michael Wong

- Senior Chemists Committee (SCC): Carolyn Burnley

Bill Carol is looking for 5 - 7 participants that 1 or 2 years away from retirement for Retirement Workshop. This would work better as a face-to-face, hands-on workshop, but with the current situation virtual options are being researched.

Entertaining a virtual option, given the demographic.

- Seminars & Summer Social: Dawn Friesen

- Science Café: Crystal Young

Crystal is leaning to pushing the event to 2021

We could do a virtual science café, but there are plenty of options out there.

ACS Science Café grant has been cancelled to 2020

II. Awards Committee: Lisa Houston

Lisa sent out a DoodlePoll for the committee

Lisa updated the website for the Mamie Moy Award

If anyone has suggestions for awards, please send them to Lisa

The committee is still canvassing, if you have suggestions or would like to assist contact Lisa

SWRM is still on

Bulk of nominations are due August 1st

We still need nominees for [3] awards

We had a nominee from San Jac for a business center

We do have carry over nominees, so we have at least 1, if not 2 for every local section award

III. Education Committee: Roxie Allen

- Chemistry Olympiad: Jerry Yang

We do have some students that made it into the next round of Olympiad. To be announced.

- Project Seed: Carolyn Burnley & Javoris Hollingsworth

From Slide:

“The research program for Project Seed has been cancelled due to complications created by COVID-19. In an effort to offer the students a value driven educational experience, a “Virtual Camp” was created and will be held from July 6 – 31. If the student does not have access to a laptop, one will be provided. The stipend will be **\$1000**. The student application deadline remains as **May 15, 2020**.

Additionally, please let me know if you know of an undergraduate or graduate student that may want to serve as a **Coach or Camp Leader**. Please check ACS Project SEED Program (Through ACS National). The application for those interested in serving as Camp Leaders is **May 31, 2020**.”

- AACT Liaison: Amiee Modic
- High School Chemistry Clubs Liaison: ??

- Middle School Liaison: ??
- Scholarship Exam: Tai-Yen
- Student Affiliates: Kiresha Johnson
- Science Fairs: Valerie Lafitte

IV. Community Affairs: Kerry Spilker

- Chemists Celebrate Earth Week & National Chemistry Week (CEW & NCW): Kiresha Johnson and Kerry Spilker
- Kids & Chemistry: Bob Botto
- Education Rainbow Challenge: Eme Abu

No word from the organizers.
- Industry Relations: J.C. Kuo

V. Communications & Technology: Laura Smith Callahan

Cotton is back!! **YAY!**

Please send your updates to Cotton for the June newsletter

Policy on Advertising

Working on it.

Charging entities does affect our taxes.

SHOUT OUT TO OUR COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE FOR STAYING CONSISTENT WITH ADVERTISING! EXCELLENT WORK!!

VI. Strategic Planning: Amber Hinkle

At the National level all strategic planning retreats have been postponed up until August

Current standing on our goals:

Many have been grouped into existing committees

Action items for Goals 1 & 2 are actively being worked on

Goal 3 is pending for now

VII. Membership: David Germack

VIII. Financial Advisory: Sunny Tang

not much activity

There are questions regarding how to proceed with donations – in regards with the advertising policy

5. Other Business:

A. Programming the days of COVID

How do we proceed with programming during a pandemic. Should we consider transition to a “COVID Programming”

Dawn discussed that ACS Nationals has ramped up webinars as well as other organizations increasing their virtual presence.

Snigdha offered a networking type event, mentioned in an earlier meeting.

Snigdha suggests that we can explore an event for people, especially those who have been laid off recently to gauge what the industry is like during this time. Snigdha can lead.

We need to give people a fair warning to have adequate attendees

Could we have a list of employers looking to fill positions for those enduring layoffs

Kevin suggested that we probe our employer collaborators to see who among them is hiring and connect them to our members who are actively job searching.

Snigdha mentioned that Brazosport reached out to us to get a list of employers in the Houston area.

Snigdha to follow up with Crystal to discuss National happy hour event.

Crystal is pondering having a virtual career fair in October to coincide with our regular career fair in the fall.

Snigdha is open to exploring our virtual options.

Crystal and Dawn agree that we should pursue a virtual-only option

Lisa suggests to begin with Networking sessions and probe the audience on what they would like to see us do, so we can provide those services.

Dawn suggests that we could have weekly small meetings, to decrease group size and encourage more networking opportunities for our members.

Crystal and Snigdha to collaborate on what networking event provide in the June meeting

Lisa suggests we check FORMS to see what other sections are doing and get ideas from other local sections.

Dawn saw a social media post with the Chicago sessions and two other sections on the east coast hosting a joint job fair type session.

Regarding virtual programming, Lisa suggests contacting MFAH for collaboration. We should look into working with them to get an event going.

B. IPG Grant Status

2 Members Engaging Through Technology Grant cycles in Spring & Fall

Fall application had been delayed to July 15th

Javoris and Mamie want to reapply for the IPG grant for the Italian Fest

We should still apply for the IPG grant.

Kevin volunteered to help in any capacity for programming since YCC has been inactive lately

C. COVID Status

Laura mentioned that Texas Med Center bed usage has been trending down recently. With that in mind, we should still be cognizant of physical events that could come up as the situation gets better.

D. Mask Sales

We'll need to share our tracking spreadsheet with Sam to update him on incoming monies.

We have sold 38 masks, we have 9 remaining in inventory. We have raised \$399!!

SHOUT OUT TO CATHERINE AND HER SEWING MACHINE!!

Our masks are being shipped nationwide, so way to go all!!

2 Test tubes & 7 microscopes remain in inventory

Roxie is also making masks and donating. We should capture the great work our members are doing for their community!

E. Volunteer Opportunities

WELCOME SAGHAR!!

Interviews, awards committee

Meeting Adjourned At: 7:22 p.m.