

ACS-GHS Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2020

1. Welcome/Introductions:

Meeting convened at 6:32 p.m. over ZOOM (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 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 type="checkbox"/> Alexis Symons
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eme Abu	Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Yang
<input type="checkbox"/> Kiresha Johnson	Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Saghar Mowlazadeh Haghighi
<input type="checkbox"/> David Singleton	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/> Shih-Feng Yu
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mamie Moy	Councilor	<input type="checkbox"/> Lynn Foster (WELCOME!)
<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 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 September Meeting Minutes: Crystal Young

To be adopted via email

3. Committee Updates:

I. Programming Committee: Dawn Friesen

- Younger Chemists Committee (YCC): Kevin Ramirez

Upcoming Jackbox games night on Wednesday, Oct 21

Ran a test run of the event with Dawn and Kevin, test went well. **THANKS DAWN!!**

If anyone in GHS would like to host an event with the Jackbox games, the YCC owns those games

Kevin can provide the YCC Steam Login info for local section use

- Women Chemists Committee (WCC): Valerie Lafitte

- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC): Javoris Hollingsworth

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

- Senior Chemists Committee (SCC): Carolyn Burnley

Carolyn would like to do a survey to gauge interest of the group

Dawn to follow up with Carolyn on creating a listing of individuals to survey

- Seminars & Summer Social: Dawn Friesen

Brazosport local section is doing a lecture on 10/21 from 11 – 12:30

Adhesives scientists will be giving a talk on the theme of Sticking to Chemistry

Information is up on the on the local section's website

Roxie is interested in the lecture recording to share with teachers

Dawn to check if the Brazosport lecture will be recorded

Dawn to put together a virtual event for the week of November 16th

- Science Café: Crystal Young

II. Awards Committee: Lisa Houston

Awards dinner is this Saturday, October 24th

Social 'cocktail hour' will be 5 – 6. Depending on attendee numbers, may have breakout groups

Early congrats to our award winners!

Currently have 35 registrants for the awards dinner

There is a final awards committee meeting on Thursday, October 22nd

All the awardees have been sent their certificates through mail

Carolyn asked if we are we inviting students to the awards dinner

2 students attended the national Chemistry Olympiad camp from Katy that can be invited to attend

Roxie to check which students we can recognize at the dinner

Amiee to make contact with Jennifer Knox who was the 2 students teacher to get their names that way

Do we want to have Roxie send out an email to local HS teachers who like to attend for the social hour/event

We could invite past award winners to celebrate with the current award winners

The more the merrier 😊

David T. suggests that we could allot award winners a certain number of guests

Crystal agrees that we should send out something to award winners to encourage them to invite guests. She also mentioned that Lisa also suggested this in her original message

David T. suggests that in the future we invite the officers of the student affiliates to the awards dinner for community building and strengthen connections

Crystal, Roxie, and Carolyn agree that those notices should be sent out to continue contact with our community of affiliates

****Below are Lisa's updates****

Region P3 award went to our nominee! **CONGRATS!!!**

Stanley Israel award has been selected and awardee to be announced this week

ChemLuminary to be held virtually on December 9th, event is still in the planning stages

ChemLuminary award will be a plaque and a \$500 monetary award for each award given

Regional award checks are going out this week

Award winners are being invited to Austin to accept award

Lisa to follow-up if see if travel is covered

III. Education Committee: Roxie Allen

- Chemistry Olympiad: Jerry Yang

Fully online this year

Dates are set

“Test drove” this method last spring

- Project Seed: Carolyn Burnley & Javoris Hollingsworth

In the process of finalizing strategic plan

Typically recruiting for mentors in November

- AACT Liaison: Amiee Modic

Held regional representation liaison meeting the previous week

Discussed different ways to make connections with the Local Section

There were a few suggestions on how to interact more with local sections

Challenging because local sections are in different states with things moving online

A number of webinars are lined up for this fall

An open house is planned in the future

You **do not** need to be a AACT to attend open house

They give you a tour of the materials

AACT has a lot of materials available for K – 5 and middle school outreach

Plan is to try to find ways to get people to participate

Some good thoughts out there

- High School Chemistry Clubs Liaison: ??

- Middle School Liaison: ??

- Scholarship Exam: Tai-Yen
UH is not allowing anything to be scheduled as of late

We will probably have to use a similar program that was used for Chemistry Olympiad

Thinking to combine the scholarship and chemistry Olympiad

Scholarship exams students would only be compared with other students that have completed first year chemistry, so there is merits to this proposal

We should pursue this, if possible, since the exam already exists and it would be easy to pull those numbers

- Student Affiliates: Kiresha Johnson

- Science Fairs: Valerie Lafitte

IV. Community Affairs: Kerry Spilker

There was a recent meeting to discuss goal 3

Illustrated poetry contest is still open until October 25th, and it's entirely online

all results should be sent to Reese as the contact, then follow up for results

The results won't be sent out until after the poetry contest is closed

If you'd like to contact Kerry, please contact her at her personal email (kkspilker@gmail.com)

HAPPY RETIREMENT KERRY!!

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

Many companies are asking employees to retire early

Economy is very tough across the board, especially for those in the oil industry

Downstream side of oil industry is doing ok, Upstream side is hurting

V. Communications & Technology: Laura Smith Callahan

Newsletter was a little late to include awards committee info

PR makeover request is ready to go out after the meeting

Please let Laura know if you need the Zoom login for chapter business

Let Laura know more than a day in advance so there isn't a conflict with events

Crystal asked if people just created scheduled meetings if that is enough

Laura said it was ok, but the **Communications chair should be notified**

If you have anything you like shared, please let Laura know

VI. Strategic Planning: Amber Hinkle

Kerry had pulled together a brief call to discuss Goal 3

Please see Kerry's email text below

Sunny and I met to discuss the YTD accomplishments and set the agenda and subsequent budget for 2021.

Agenda

- Goal 3: Leader in communicating to the general public the nature and value of chemistry and related sciences.
 - Current outreach includes CCEW, Scout Fair, San Jac STEM Program, NCW
 - New program discussion
- New Strategies
 - Communication – Connect with Laura Smith Callahan to utilize tools such as Zoom, Facebook, Twitter, Newsletter (most effective)
 - AACT – Connect with Aimee Modic to engage with HS Chemistry Teachers
 - Talk to a Scientist Format
 - Go Pro (sent to professor nation wide)
 - Tour lab virtually
 - Chem Demo?
 - 10 minute Q&A

All ideas welcome...I plan to have a discussion monthly until we get the ball rolling.

****End email****

VII. Membership: David Germack

VIII. Financial Advisory: Sunny Tang

SWRM dues to be updated

SWRM dues have been reduced by 50% due to COVID, per Lisa's email

If you have any ideas on how to spend money to improve the local section

4. **Other Business:**

A. Local Section 2021 Elections

We need the Election Only Roster from Nationals to begin the elections.

We hope to have the roster by Oct 27, and elections open by Oct 28

List to be sent to James Caliborne at Vote-Now.com

B. National ACS Volunteer of the Year

There is online form to submit, open until Dec 15

Each local section can only nominate 1 person

Dawn mentioned that Lisa may be looking into handling this after Awards

David T. asked if there are there rules for who can not be nominated?

Typically geared towards those doing outreach volunteering

C. Remembering Long Time ACS Member – Richard Whitman

Member's sister (Andrea Scholl)[sp?] reached out to leadership to make a contribution to the section in her brother's name

We could ask her if there is a specific project she would like to apply it to

David T. suggested that we summarize a list of projects that she could sponsor with that contribution

Mamie suggests that more accomplished members be called upon in these instances since many of our them might know these members personally or worked with them in the past

Mamie to contact Andrea to discuss how she'd like to see her donation applied

We should also include a statement, as approved by the family, to remember the member's contributions and notified other chemists who may have known the member

D. HBU Speaking Panel

Kevin was invited by a former professor to give a talk to the HBU student affiliate

The discussion details are not yet known at this time, but will be shared to interested volunteers

If you are interested in giving a brief talk on your career path, please follow-up with Kevin

Crystal may be available, depending on the date

Carolyn mentioned Javoris would be another good speaker to have at the event

Meeting Adjourned At: 7:32 p.m.