



Minutes of Executive Meeting of
Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society
Virtual Meeting on Zoom
Chair Sarah Zimmerman, presiding
December 14, 2022

Present: Nicole Carbonaro, Eric Cotton, Kelly Elkins, Louise Hellwig, Jan Kolakowski, Lee Lefkowitz, Jillian Marlborough, Sara Narayan, Beatrice Salazar, Sarah Zimmerman

Sarah called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Eric administered the election; the cost was \$125. There was better participation than last year. All officers ran unopposed. The revised By-Laws were also passed and will be posted on the Section website. Eric is now the Chair of the Election Committee. He will e-mail the others on the Nominations Committee to see if they are interested in serving on the Election Committee.

Beatrice reported that the Maryland Chemist Award meeting will be held Dec. 19 in College Park.

Beatrice also reported that we are signed up for the next Chemistry Olympiad. There was some discussion of where it would be held, for example on which campus.

Sara reported that the Student Awards meeting will be held April 8. The location has not yet been determined, though someone formerly at Towson and now at Notre Dame will be contacted about the use of the Notre Dame dining hall. It was emphasized that all student winners must be chemistry majors.

Kelly reported that the Women Chemists Committee meeting will be February 8 online. The speaker will be Rebecca Ruck, a Vice President at Merck in New Jersey.

Plans for social events were discussed. Jillian (and hopefully Michele Foss) will organize an event at Covalent Spirits, a distillery in Westminster. Another possible venue is Nepenthe Brewery in Hampden.

The ACS Leadership Institute will be held in January. ACS pays for the Chair-Elect to attend. If a second person also attends, the cost is in the vicinity of \$1500-2000. It was unclear who exactly from the Section would attend.

Jan reported that we had \$84,589.72 (up about \$5000 since October) in our Fidelity Contra Fund and \$119,761.97 (up about \$12,000 since October) in our Nicholas Fund.



Louise asked how much the Section was willing to set aside for Project Seed high school student internships. Project SEED administered by the national ACS is for financially disadvantaged students. They expect the local section to pay \$1250 for each student intern in our area. The Maryland Section has a Maryland Research Program Project SEED in which we support high school summer interns with no financial stipulations. Last year we paid such students \$2000 apiece. The sense of the group was that the Section wants to support all high school summer interns but particularly the financially disadvantaged. The exact amount of money to set aside for these internships was left open. We will see how many mentors are willing to take on high school students, and how many students apply for both the national Project SEED and the Maryland version.

With this in mind, Lee presented the Budget, which was approved (see attached). After much discussion it was decided to support Saif Yasin's FER program for middle schoolers to participate in a science fair with \$500. Kelly proposed a program for two-year college faculty for projects related to education, computation, or chemical research; \$4000 was allotted for this. Kelly, Eric, Jillian and Louise will work out the details of the application process. Lee pointed out that we set aside \$6000 in the past to pay tuition for chemists wanting to take ACS short courses to further their careers. This money has not been used yet. The question was raised whether we should continue to reinvest all profits from our investment funds or instead to use those profits to support chemists at various stages from students through career chemists. Lee also suggested we should look to for a better place to put our liquid assets, as M&T bank is paying such low interest.

Beatrice has used our Innovative Projects Grant to hold a webinar on Circular Nutrient Economy. We can now apply for a new IPG, perhaps for further webinars. Morgan State University's Zoom account was used because it can accommodate over 100 attendees.

There was discussion of how to raise active membership in the Maryland Section. One idea was to hold a lunch or other event for Maryland Section members at national ACS meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Hellwig, Secretary

Check next pages for Addenda about Treasurer's Report