



# American Chemical Society

Richland Section Board Meeting  
Wednesday, 2/14/2018, 6:05 PM at Lobby WSU Tri City Campus

2/14/18

Start: 6:05 pm

Attendance: Ram Devanathan, Susan Asmussen, Shirmir Branch, Megan Nims, Deepika Malhotra, Mariefel Olarte, Jim Hewlett, Frannie Smith (online), Anna Cavinato (online), Sneha Akhade (online), Sandy Fiskum (online),

1. Review of minutes January meeting: Ram noted that we are not in quorum so cannot vote on the minutes and other items that need votation.
2. Treasurer's report: Sandy gave update for both NORM and ACS Richland section. The Mid-Columbia Science Fair support request of \$325 was approved. The 2017 Tax Return was submitted already, as well as sent to ACS National. Reminder for Early Bird registration for NORM and submission of blurb for the winter newsletter were also noted.
3. 2018 Budget vote and comments: Online voting was still on-going, with 48 in favor and 9 against. There is concern for the deficit in the budget. Comment was given that usually at the beginning, we have a deficit but becomes ok at the end of the year. There is also a concern on expected costs. The rollover grant from last year will be discussed in the next meeting.
4. 2017 Annual report update and Chem Luminary nomination update: Anna gave the updates. She will soon finish and submit the nomination for Girls in Science for Best National Chemistry Event, Most Innovative National Chemistry Organization by Students. For awards nomination, she noted that it is better to concentrate on 1 or 2 different activities such as the activity in La Grande and the newsletters. There is a comment that Tri-City events (Sci-Café, etc.) typically went undocumented. However, the recent WCC activity and NORM will have write-ups. These activities need to be documented on the official activity form. Activities not officially written and submitted previously cannot be highlighted. Inclusion in newsletter is also a form of documentation for events but accomplishing activity forms are still needed. A question was raised whether the newsletters are attached to the annual report. They are attached as pdfs. The Annual and Financial reports are already filed.
  - a. Ram congratulated Anna on her documentation and suggested that an example write-up be circulated to show required level of detail. Section activities in EOU has been well-documented but not the ones in Richland. Recommended format for write-up is a paragraph or two about events and highlights, with some pictures. This will make it easier during nomination time. Example WCC events include work with K-12, pottery night and other activities. *Moving forward: need access to the forms, enter activities as they happen and document also in the newsletter.* Ram is the contact for access to the activity forms. Anna noted that capturing the process, the number of volunteers, hours invested and collaboration with other organizations will make it easier to answer the questions during nomination.
5. Science Fair Judging: The Mid-Columbia Science Fair is a big event on March 8. We serve as an organization sponsor. This event has been growing through the years, with 350 students last year



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and is a good chance for us to bring young people into our field. A good activity for the WCC – there are lots of girls to influence. We can serve as judges for K-12 kids. Fields include biology and engineering. Dave is the ACS chief judge and Ram, the organizer for the ACS sponsored awards. Two \$50 awards will be given to best presentation in Chemistry. Dave also organized a breakfast for the ACS judge volunteers. There will be some posters highlighting chemistry.

6. Update from WCC: Ram noted Susan's change of name and Shirmir getting a staff position at PNNL. Megan reported that the WCC kick-off event, Pottery Night, went very well, with 15 members attending. WCC was congratulated for the event. The board was represented by Frannie and Kristin. A survey was given to the attendees, including request for suggestions on what events they would like to follow. Shirmir reports the following events and topics that were suggested: mentoring and career development workshops, manufacturing tours, chemistry related to pottery, outreach for early career women chemists including paper writing, professional development to leadership positions, science and radiochemistry. Ram suggested that WCC organize an event that can tackle 2-3 of the suggestions at the same time. Next WCC activity was to meet with PNNL SPARK at the Sexual Harassment in the Sciences webinar event. WCC reached out to pair with them, may re-present the webinar also. Ram commented that it will be great for WCC and SPARK to work together. SPARK has good funding, momentum and volunteers. Frannie agreed that it was a good idea and suggested that WCC may consider giving out WCC flyers from a table and Megan agreed. Ram suggested to include Frannie's periodic table cloth with Frannie's agreement. Frannie also suggested that WCC participate in the Celebration of Science. WCC looking for 501c3. The event will be at the same location, from 11-3 pm, and they are looking for new volunteers and speakers (4-5 presenters).
7. Earth Day: Sneha accepted the CCED coordinator role. Work is to support/coordinate merchandise procurement such as flyers, toy stickers and pencils. There is a flat shipping fee and she wanted to know what the budget is and whether she can place the order. Previously, Anna typically orders and brings them, but noted that she does not need to do these herself. Typically, pamphlet boxes are shipped to the Tri-Cities: 1<sup>st</sup> 3 English boxes and 1 Spanish box are for free. Comments were that those should be enough and that it would be good to have them by April 7. Sneha can order and then send to Anna what she needs. Anna can use them for an event in La Grande where about 200 persons typically attend, including from other organizations. We may consider ordering other toys as well, such as the environmental mole (\$20/box) and bracelets. Sandy noted that we allocated a budget for \$200 this year. Frannie asked if all \$200 can be used for the event in La Grande and Celebration of Science in the Tri-Cities. Sneha suggested that we order a variety of giveaways instead; the moles may be expensive. She also suggested that we prioritize what to order and make sure that all the kids can get more.
8. Posters: Jim Hewlett has two posters that he would like to give away. They are of Antoine Lavoisier and his wife, done by David in 1788 and are 3.5' x 5' in size. Sandy suggested that they be made as raffle prizes. Ram said that he will keep them for now, until NORM. Shirmir suggested to give one at the banquet, to encourage attendance.



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9. NORM Update: Ram mentioned that the building is getting finished by end of March, with a 2-wk walk-through. Anna gave an update based on an e-mail sent by Janet.
- Website is fully functional. Registration - both hard copy and electronic; Call for Papers - including a downloadable pdf with full contacts and descriptions for each session in MAPS; and Call for Award Nominations are all front and center on the main page, as well as detailed on their respective sub-pages. And updated weekly with sponsors, vendors, news flashes. Kudos to our hired web designer Sharon Betterton on the professional look and feel and functionality.
  - 1st of planned PR e-blasts went out to the full ACS list. Steve K and Janet are working with ACS staff on that content. The marketing plan is on the Google Docs drive under the PR folder.
  - Deepika, Sandy and Janet are taking inventory of sponsors and pursuing logos, urls, etc. to keep the website current and posture for the program book content that will arise out of that. Deepika mentioned that we received \$1000 from Analytical Chemistry Section and the check was sent to Sandy's address. There is a \$2000 donation from the Organic Chemistry Section but that works on a reimbursement basis. Ways to address this needs to be discussed. There are 3-4 categories that the fund cannot be used for. One possibility is to reimburse for the souvenir bags. Another option is to ask the symposium organizers to track speaker-related expenses and then send receipt to Organic Chem. Anna noted that speakers pay for their expenses upfront for NORM and will be reimbursed later. We will need to check with Janet with regards to the particulars of the Organic Chem donation.
  - Bernie C is doing a great job on the Vendor Expo. We have at least 8 of 22 spots already signed up. PNNL will also get a prime spot and Janet is working with PNNL Management on what will be in that booth. The ACS Store will also take up a vendor booth space.
  - The contract with the City of Richland for the \$3K hotel/motel tax grant is signed. Once we expend those funds, which will include the \$3K plus a smidge for the Registrants' tote bags, plus the cost of the website, we will get reimbursement from the City. We received the City's logo today and url link for the website.
  - Region Awards: Janet's recommendation (she cannot be involved in putting together the nominations):
    - Stan Israel nomination is due March 15th, and is an online form to the ACS Awards office. Link is working on the NORM 2018 website. Janet recommended a nomination of WSU-TC for its excellence in drawing under-served, and often 1st generation to go to college, population to the TC campus. Noting also its prime workings with PNNL and Industry partners on high quality STEM education, in particular. There are multiple examples at WSU-TC on such



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partnerships, and the data on % minority population and growth over time is impressive.

Nalley nomination is due April 1. I recommend a nomination of Dr. Anna Cavinato. Please someone get this written up. It is overdue!

High School Teacher is due April 1. Please someone find one of the many fine STEM teachers in our Section's zone and write up the nomination! Frannie should be discussing this with her PNNL Education Programs colleagues! Ram recommended Don Fenthauser as a potential nominee. He is an excellent long-term Kennewick Chem teacher.

P3 nomination is due April 1. Janet recommend a nomination be submitted on the marvelous partnership of St. Michele Wineries and WSU-TC to fund, build and support the Wine Sciences Center on the WSU-TC campus. It's a perfect example of partners for prosperity and furthering chemistry-science in the PNW.

10. Other updates: (1) Program in the Box at EOU will occur on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. Anna will participate. Susan mentioned EYH on March 24<sup>th</sup> and that they need volunteers: 6-8 female speakers, as well as 2 45-minute STEM workshops. They can help develop the materials. Anna noted that this is the Saturday after New Orleans. (2) Mariefel noted that there was a call for local section mini-grant for partnering with neighboring local sections. Ram noted that previously, the section event was to have a mini-picnic close to a museum. (3) Frannie noted that Jennifer Soltis is in the teacher track for geo-chemistry division.

Meeting finished: 7:05 pm

**ACS Richland Section  
Treasurer's Report**

February 14, 2018

**Activities**

Received request from MCSF for \$325 support  
Submitted 2017 tax epostcard form 990-N (2/4/18)  
Sent copy of the 2017 epostcard statement to ACS HQ

**Starting Balance**

Savings	\$18,888.43
Checking	\$12,116.15

**Receipts**

From	Amount	Budget Category	Date	Directed to:
ACS/early bird discount for leadership training	\$250.00	11b	12/30/2017	Checking

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Total receipts this period	\$250.00
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**Expenses**

To (date billed)	Amount	Budget Category	Date Paid	Description; check number
Visual Verve (1/30/18)	\$243.75	16a	2/4/2018	January 2018 newsletter; 1254

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Total spent this period	\$243.75
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**Ending Balance**

Mar	\$18,888.43
Checking	\$12,122.40