



Richland Section Board Meeting Wednesday, 3/14/2018, 6:04 PM at BSEL 202 WSU Tri City Campus

3/14/18

Start: 6:04 pm

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

1. Announcements: Ram gave the following announcements and congratulations:
 - a. Frannie and Susan were nominated to the Education Committee. Frannie recommended Susan, especially considering her work in WCC. Susan will be the committee chair and Frannie as co-chair.
 - b. Deepika is the new membership chair.
 - c. Janet is the new awards committee chair.

These new appointments will affect quorum as standing committee chairs are counted as board members of the local section.

2. Summary of NORM2018 meeting: Anna summarized the highlights of the just concluded NORM2018 planning meeting. *Budget*: Sandy gave an update on the budget, which is healthy. There is no immediate expense planned. Contributions from different donors were mentioned. Shuttle cost is lower than cost estimate. Allison Campbell had identified a potential path to gain another donor. *Fundraising*: Donor company logos are on the website. Eighteen (18) booths already reserved. *PR*: E-mail blast will be sent to members. Tote bags cost \$2763 in total and our grant from the City of Richland will cover it, along with \$237 of the costs from our website design and maintenance. NORM2018 is represented in the Regional Meetings booth at the ACS National Meeting in New Orleans. Anna will have potential discussion at the national meeting on venues to advertise undergraduate program for NORM2018. *Programming*: Ram noted that the abstract deadline is on April 9. Symposium organizers will have April 12-23 to decide and plan. There are already 31 people registered, with 20 abstracts. Allison will have a 3-hour advocacy programming. *Facilities*: Discovery Hall construction coming along beautifully; walk-through in April.
3. Review of minutes of January and February meetings: No questions were raised and both were approved. Minutes need to be submitted to the webmaster for posting.
4. Update on conference room scheduling: We will now be meeting in BSEL 202 for the monthly board meeting. Requirement for this is someone who works in BSEL needs to make the request. WSU changed policies and now requires insurance and signing of a contract.
5. Treasurer's report for January and February: Sandy gave an update. She wrote refund checks for the leadership training in Texas and \$275 for the WCC pottery event. She noted that Banner Bank started charging us a \$3/month online fee. She had notified them that we do not want to pay that fee. The local section has a healthy savings amount. Questions about dues were raised. ACS has been assessing local section dues at \$5/yr for many years. Do we still want to collect dues and if so, how much? What do other local sections charge? Anna will try to find out at the National



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Meeting. Steve commented that it is valuable to know if \$5/year is the average. Janet commented that though PNNL paid her ACS membership dues last year, the voluntary fee was not included. Ram asked about a deadline to get info about voluntary dues. Anna will get the info.

6. WCC Bylaws: Discussion will be done after the NORM2018. Sandy and Janet are discussing great ideas. Janet mentioned an updated, streamlined process from Constitution and Bylaws Committee (C&B). There is a template with questions that then C&B uses to produce a draft for action. It was noted that Janet chairs the Bylaws Committee but it is not a standing committee. There is a debate on the pros and cons of making this a standing, regularly-appointed committee as this decision will affect the quorum. Note that changing bylaws is not done regularly. Proposed timeframe to update WCC bylaws is around July and August. It is noted that changes to committee positions may be done to improve quorum.
7. Proposal for Government Affairs Committee: Kristin made this proposal to engage elected officials.
8. Annual Report and Chem Luminary Update: Ram noted that Anna and Janet did a terrific job on the annual report. The submitted Chem Luminary nominations were also excellent. Janet noted that Anna did a great job in documenting the activities and we can use the documents she produced as a standard template. Megan and the WCC team were noted to be proactive in documenting events. They forwarded a well-written report. Including pictures of the event will improve the documentation. Janet reminded the group that pictures of people inside a lab should show them wearing goggles. Susan and Megan can work together on documenting the activities associated with educating K-12 girls. Steve asked whether the report can be posted on the website since the annual report summarizes all the activities of the local section. He will work with Matt on this.
9. Mid-Columbia Science Fair Update: Ram noted that Dave did a great job of gathering the ACS judges as well as in organizing the judging for the local section awards. The group was able to quickly identify winners. The \$325 support from our section went towards support for the large number of awards presented at the Fair. Our section also supported coffee for the ACS judges as well as the two \$50 prizes for middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-11) Chemistry posters. Recipients were Shreya Mehta (middle school) and Brian Fang (high school). The lower number of participants was noted. Previously, about 350 students participated. This year, there were only about 185-190 posters. This year, the search was extended to posters beyond chemistry, such as healthcare and environment. The award ceremony was held on Saturday, 3/10/18, at Richland High School. Photographs are available for the newsletter.
10. Ram opened the floor for new activities. Celebration of Science by Three River Science is looking for both volunteers in general and those who can staff booths. Steve said that he can draft an e-mail containing the information on time and date, which Anna can send out to the group. The event will be held at the John Dam Plaza. Other potential activities include: (a) Congratulatory party after NORM2018 suggested by Sandy, like a wine tour, (b) Summer Picnic



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mentioned by Steve, (c) Science Café at the Richland Public Library – Ram mentioned that site contractors can give interesting talks. For example, forensic scientist Sonia Peterson talked about drug epidemic and elephant tranquilizers. Terrific talks can be brought to the public. (d) Chemist Career Day suggestion by Shirmir. Create a series of speakers with professors and chemists in other industries that can give talks and/or lead interactive activities. A terrific idea given was the career development for women, starting from high schools in the Tri-Cities area. Speakers can be site contractors, DOE, PNNL and WSU personnel. This can be a venue to identify opportunities such as giving information on what courses are needed to be taken, what scholarships are available, etc. (e) Activity to attract school-age students to go into STEM suggestion by Frannie. We can partner with existing events such as STEM and EYH. The WCC committee chair on education may consider this. (f) Coordination with Washington State. The state announced that it has a lot of STEM jobs with a little eligible workforce. There is a need to engage people who are not originally oriented towards the sciences.

11. Earth Day: Sneha and Frannie gave the update. Order for merchandise that can be used for multiple events was already placed. The order consists of 4 boxes of brochures (Celebrating Chemistry in 2018) – 2 in English, 2 in Spanish. Other paraphernalia such as stickers, tattoos, pencils and moles were also ordered and has a flat rate shipping fee of \$15. We should have enough for the next activities. We are coordinating with Shelby Kadinger for the April 26th event of Bring Your Kid to Work at PNNL. The question of whether the section will have a booth was answered with that we will. This will only be from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. Typically, around 600-800 students, between the age of 9 – 15 years old, participate. Brochures from Earth Day will be used.
12. Others: Local events in Richland: (a) Identify good local speakers. (b) Organize events geared towards breweries and wineries. (c) Consider local hikes. (d) Frannie suggested events related to water. (e) Shirmir gave a more detailed update about the orientation given by the Three Rivers for the Celebration of Science. We will submit a booth request and we are seeking volunteers. The booth will be 10' x 10' with materials, and display paraphernalia for experiments. The event will be on April 21, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, with 10:00 am as booth set-up. (f) Events to encourage participation of young people in Science such as work with schools to have a day fair. We can have demos and can make this event in conjunction with promoting math. Susan was previously involved with a group of 6-8 scientists who presented to high school and middle school kids. She will check whether demos are available. We can also ask for ideas from the members through the newsletter. Janet noted that after NORM2018, we can jumpstart new activities.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm

**ACS Richland Section
Treasurer's Report**

March 14, 2018

Activities

Contacted bank about the new \$3 check image fee. Will try to get this rescinded.

Starting Balance

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

Receipts

From	Amount	Budget Category	Date	Directed to:
ACS Jul-Dec 2017 dues	\$897.00	1	3/8/2018	Checking
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Total receipts this period	\$897.00			

Expenses

To (date billed)	Amount	Budget Category	Date Paid	Description; check number
Mariefel Olarte	\$647.10	20	3/5/2018	Leadership training (1255)
MCSF Association	\$325.00	21e	3/8/2018	Grant support (1256)
Bryan Fang	\$50.00	21e	3/8/2018	MCSF high school winner (1257)
Shreya Mehta	\$50.00	21e	3/8/2018	MCSF middle school winner (1258)
Megan Nims	\$217.40	21n	3/8/2018	WCC Kick-off Event at pottery store (1259)
Banner Bank	\$3.00		3/1/2018	Check image fee
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Total spent this period	\$1,292.50			

Ending Balance

Savings	\$18,888.43
Checking	\$11,726.90