

Executive Committee Meeting's Minutes

Date: 04/17/2021

Time: 10:00-11:30 am

Location: *Held digitally using Zoom Meeting*

Zoom link: *Redacted*

Attendees: Duy Le, Denisia Popolan-Vaida, Darlene Slattery, Van Quach, Laura Sessions, Michel Johnson, Chris Chouinard, DK Weerasinghe, Talley Fenn, Joseph Deloretto, Brandon Naumann

Minutes:

- Brief introduction from Chair highlighting the presence of student chapters' representations.
- March 2021 Minutes: There is no further discussion on the minutes. It has been moved and seconded to approve. It is approved unanimously.
- Update from Executive Committee's members
 - Councilor's update: The main update has been sent to executive committee and it will be posted on the section's website. Councilor wanted to highlight the reduction in base due rate for membership to \$160 per year and new categories of memberships that are suitable for different career stages and roles.
 - Treasurer's update: Annual allotment received.
 - Chair's update: Earthday event at Lake Eola is ready. Material has been purchased. Chair and Titel Jucar went to orientation by the Central Florida Earthday and reserved the location.
 - Avogadro Award: Darlene updated that the award was given to Mr. Vedant Karalkar, Alachua County's Eastside High School junior. Press release will come soon.
 - SERMACS2025: Chair of organizing committee updated that the first planning meeting has been held on 04/10/2021 to establish list of actions for 2021. Tentative website is up and running. Call for theme and logo design will be sent out to members.
- Discussion with student chapters:
 - Introduction from chair: The committee invited student chapters to executive meeting to learn about activities of student chapters (and student chapters can learn from each other) and to figure out what could we do together to benefit student members.

- Joseph Deloretto (president of UCF chapter), Brandon Naumann (vice president of FIT chapter), and Talley Fenn (president of Rollins College Chapter) briefly discussed current activity of each chapter.
- Potential collaboration between local section and student chapters
 - Michel: requested that if student chapters have event (or connection) with (local) businesses & employers, do pass the information to Local section so it can spread the information to members. This would improve the publicity of the event and improve networking. This could also benefit employers, c.g. recruiting.
 - Michel: asked about who could join the upcoming UCF-FIT student seminar. Joseph (UCF Chapter) mentioned that emails have been sent to other ACS chapters and other not only in Florida but also in other states (got positive response). Michel followed by request to have the flyer to share in Local Section's website, facebook.... Joseph agreed.
 - Michel sent invitation to student who are interested in communicating science to participate in communication team of the local section.
 - Darlene made a general comment that this meeting is open to all who are interested and invited students to join us to know about what we are doing and what we could do to get student involved in the activity of local section.
 - Duy asked Talley (Rollins College) about how the chapter recruited members before the pandemic. Talley: by providing incentive for joining (food, for example) chapter's activities. And now, everything goes virtually, those incentive does not work.
 - Duy mentioned that it is remarkable that with only few members, Rollins College chapter received an award from ACS some year ago.
 - DP brough back the discussion of getting industry professional more involved, like having them to come for meeting, seminar, giving advices (CV, career...).
 - Duy asked about relationship of the chapters and graduate students. Consensus answer is not much.
 - Duy asked about possible event that the section can organize to benefits students and other members.
 - JP suggested industrial/ scientific field trip. Duy: participants to this type of event is limited. Michel: it is a start with small group, we then can invite more to join.
 - Michel suggested to get people from industry to give presentation about their company and success at our meeting, then we can pass it to members.
 - DK reminded that industry people may not want to show public their "secret" so planning to visit them may not be

always feasible and that industry does not give incentive for ACS activity (bottom line is more important).

- Michel considered the conversation is a success.
- Van asked if we should raise the local section due or keep it unchanged. Committee agreed that we keep it unchanged.
- Duy request to approve additional fund for Earthday's activity. Darlene moved to approve reimbursements for any cost associated with the activity. It has been seconded by Laura and passed unanimously.
- Duy proposed to provide a sponsor of \$5000 for SERMACS 2025 so that the organizing committee has its own working fund to start. Van asked if it should be a loan or sponsor. Darlene and Chris made the case for it to be a sponsor and local section does not expect to receive any payback. Darlene moved to approved \$5000 sponsor for SERMACS 2025 without expectation of it being given back to the section. It has been seconded by Chris and approved unanimously.
- Miscellany: Duy asked Michel about what to do with the entrepreneur award's one-pager. Michel recommended to post it on website and spread it.
- Next meeting: 10.00AM-11.30AM on 05/15/2021 (and Every third Saturday of each Month)
- Meeting adjourned at 11.30AM