

## Executive Committee Meeting's Minutes

**Date:** 06/19/2021

**Time:** 10:00-11:30 am

**Location:** *Held digitally using Zoom Meeting*

Zoom link: *Redacted*

**Attendees:** Duy Le, Darlene Slattery, Van Quach, Laura Sessions, Michel Johnson, Pavithra Pathirathna, Christopher Chouinard, DK Weerasinghe,

### Minutes:

- Approve May 2021 Minutes
  - Darlene made a motion, and Van seconded. All were in favor of approving the minutes.
- Update from Councilor (Darlene)
  - Committee work is ongoing and preparing for the meeting in August.
- Update from Treasurer (Van)
  - Paid for a couple of items used for the Earth-Day activities.
- Update from Chris
  - The Second SERMACS was held on June 12th, 2021. The major action items identified were:  
Identifying a fundraising, advertising & marketing chair  
Selecting a venue for the conference  
Finalizing the theme and the logo (opened up to the membership as a contest)
- Update from Chair (Duy)
  - Participated in the last CCEW meeting (ChemLuminary Nomination Training) and aims to apply for the Outstanding ongoing CCEW event.
  - Submitted our CCEW event to <https://www.facebook.com/ChemistsCelebrateEarthWeek>
  - **Latest e-Roster:** -541 members (623 on 01/21, 632 on 12/20)  
Darlene suggested that we must look into why we lost this many members and start contacting them to get the new membership categories coming at the end of this year (cheaper ones).
- Outreach to the private sector

- Michel visited the laboratory at Bomax and invited them to send us a press release as we can post that information from our end. As a result of this visit, Michel also came across another company called ecoSPEARS (one of the groups that won a prize at an aerospace investment forum). He contacted the company and waiting to meet the company's co-founder to discuss whether they'd see value in being feature at the SERMACS (what kind of scientific talks would be helpful for the company, will they be willing to organize a special session, etc. The same type of discussion had happened between Michel and Dr. Debbie Maxwell, the founder of the Bomax and now Michel is waiting for their response.
- He also mentioned that he is going to invite an industrial representative to join our executive meetings. However, if that time doesn't work for them, Michel is willing to meet them at a different time and would appreciate it if one or more members from the executive board could join him, thus, to grow networking better.
- DK suggested it is better to find contact information for the targeted individuals to talk about being the fundraising chair at SERMACS.
- Seminar series for Fall semester (including industry)
  - Duy mentioned that the student-organized seminar could be in-person this time, and we are waiting for proposals from UCF/FIT chapters.
  - Duy asked whether we should have in-person events such as inviting a science influencer/private sector to a campus or Science café or Meet & Greet. However, since no one favors having in-person events yet, the discussion was postponed.
  - Michel suggested inviting someone from the private sector to be the lead speaker at our social dinner, and when we are ready to do social events, we can expand that to campuses.
- Industry tours
  - Duy mentioned that DK had contacted two potential destinations, and we need to either find a volunteer who can organize the trip or we do a Meet & Great type event at Orlando Brewing (or other similar businesses).
  - DK mentioned that Florida Food Company is not allowing industrial tours; however, this may be a good place for students (graduates and internships) as they are expanding with new research laboratories. He suggested that we could start from the Orlando Brewing as a starting point. He also mentioned he is trying to find contacts of Coca-Cola to see whether they could allow site visits.

- Duy suggested starting a tour of Orlando Brewery sometime in October or November.
- NCW Contest
  - Duy will lay out a framework for possible online NCW contests (demonstration video, drawing/painting, etc., based on this year's theme; chemical reactions) events and share it among the committee.
- Travel awards (FAME, SERMACS, National Meeting)
  - Duy pointed out that we have three different types of travel awards for students; FAME: 2 x \$150, SERMACS: 2 x \$250, and ACS Fall Meeting: 2 x \$500.
  - Darlene suggested that we cover the registration fees for ACS Fall Meeting but not send someone for an in-person meeting. She also proposed to include an accepted abstract and a letter from the advisor confirming the need for additional funding in the application package, and Duy will work on that and circulate it among the committee.
- Local Section's Representatives at FAME & SERMACS
  - Darlene made a motion that we should pay Chris's registration fee for FAME so that he can start talking about SERMACS, and Duy seconded it. Everyone was in favor of the motion, and the funding was passed.
- Miscellany
  - Annual Awards' descriptions
    - Michel suggested that it is better to highlight the "The criteria are not exclusionary.." part.
    - Laura was seeking feedback on whether or not to have volunteering listed as a criterion for every award. Darlene suggested it is always a plus thing to include it in the application as it helps to judge applications and encourage them to become members, not a bad thing.
- Meeting Adjourned at 11.05 AM.
- Next meeting: 10.00AM-11.30AM on 07/17/2021 (and Every third Saturday of each Month)