POLY Winter Executive Meeting
January 24 – 26, 2020
Francis Marion Hotel, 387 King Street, Charleston, SC 29403

DRAFT MINUTES

Saturday, January 25, 2020

8:00 – 8:30 AM

Welcome and acknowledge newly elected officers

Notes from Mike on what we will accomplish and work on this year. Decision: focus on meetings broadly.

Key here: programming at national meetings. We're losing a day and we should promote posters better.

Regional Meeting: we're too reactive and not proactive. Let's reach out and maximize the impact of our presence at those meeting.

Workshops: relevant, trendsetting, serve members, and generate revenue.

8:30 – 10:00 AM

Treasurer's Reporting (Coltrain)

- 2019 Budget Review

For those who don't know: we have investments and we pull from them as we need to. Awards is a big area.

2019 we have small budget surplus. Why? Workshops paid off (Thanks Lesia!). Still though: allocations down and membership is down.

Our income stream is really membership, allocations, and workshops. We need to work on this.

Allocations fluctuate and the calculus is fuzzy math.

"if you have a lot of posters you can get a lot of money"

Workshops vary year to year but we made about $90k this year.

Q: is it useful for to look at all these numbers?
A: yes it is.

MACRO thing at ACS Philly is oddly impacting the budget based on how money is coming in and out across 2 years

POLYED is still open we need to talk to how to spend it.

- 2020 Budget Initial Review

We're going to assume membership and allocation are steady, and $10K for awards.
Symposium support: we always guess $28 but it's always a risk that we'll get hit harder.
Investments: we're going to pull later to balance the budget.
MACRO2020 Philly thing is a question mark but we'll see. It seems that this will be fine more on that later.

Pacifichem is a big spend this year.
If we're prioritizing regional meetings we should be putting more in here too.
Workshops are looking good (estimating conservatively)
Newsletter sponsorships are down. Seems like sponsorship is down in general.

Proposal: ask the sponsors what advertising would be better for them.

Q: Did workshop sponsorship translate to a loss in newsletter support?
A: yes in part.

Proposal: can we put together a sponsorship package were we offer different levels and put advertising is several places?

in a way we already do this with workshops. Worth a discussion.

Proposal: put this on the webpage with a description and a note that we are nonprofit.

So bottom line: we are projecting -$192K (without MACRO and pacifichem it's still -$141k)

Downward allocation trend: For allocations and membership there is supposed to be a floor so that is good.

We're talked about how to get more of the pie but since it is relative to other divisions this is hard to predict.

Posters seems to be a way to really up this number. We underperform here. We've discussed this before.

We have a number of slides on this. We can talk about it then. This is a larger discussion.

Side discussion on posters and programming

Digital showcase. Digital posters? Stand in front of a screen. A few slides. It seemed cool. Future faculty session? IAB?- a couple of good points:
Future faculty thing is a culture change, we'd need to invest in it.
Digital posters are great but mechanics are hard.

Back to budgeting:
Is our membership too expensive? It's the highest one, is that why people don't join? We should discuss this. This is a major budget item.

Proposal: lowering it doesn't make sense. Should we raise it and by how much?
Anyway… to be discussed with membership

The key here: increase income and reduce expenses.
There are several suggestions on the table but most of these are just a few thousand dollars.

- Considerations for Pacifichem

Historically we have supported this and we are getting requests already. This can be budget neutral but it is always a risk. They usually intend to support the divisions.

MOTION: To receive symposium support from POLY at least one organizer needs to be POLY a member. Organizers will be encouraged to promote POLY membership to their speakers.
***Carried unanimously*.**

Discussion points

- should we require speakers to be members? Little support for this
- This could be much more impactful for the division than supporting the normal national meetings.
- We should require this for all symposium
- What are some unsuspected consequences?

- Business Office

The business office rocks. Period.

Proposals: should we support professional development opportunities for the business office. Classes, etc? There is support for this.

Proposal: Can we chose to redirect eschewed reimbursements to the business office?
Proposal: Can we have an idea of what professional development opportunities are available, desirable, and how much it costs? Or we suggest what is available?

- Investments

We have been hanging around $1M for several years despite withdrawing to balance the budget.

Discussion on the international fund. ~$30k. Yes we are still discussing this. Discussion focused on using this money, finding ways to spend this line item down and get it off or sheets. Finally.

IUPAC MACRO2020 is a potential place to spend some of this.

Put this out to the international committee. We will discuss and vote on this in Philly.

MOTION: We resolve to spend down international account in 2020. Roughly budgeted $20K pacifichem $10k for MACRO in Philly.
***Carried unanimously*.**

ACS Councilor Updates/Reports, Councilors (Meador, Tew, Uhrich, Beers, Gerbi)

10:00-10:12 AM

Journals: expect more of them.

- Dues and Allocations
- Committee Highlights: Committee on Committees, M&E, DAC, EDMC, CEPA, COMSCI
  - DAC, NOLA Sci-Mix "Division Row"

We don't have representation on DAC now. We just need a request to get back on there. A counselor should at least attend that meeting.

General question on ACS: they make money but don't provide a ton of support for the divisions. Please, sir, can we have some more? (from allocations).

Turns out this is a bylaw and would require a vote by the board of directors. That bylaw came when most of that money came from membership. Pubs feels like they are under pressure from open access.

You don't have to be part of a division: has this come up?
A: yes. You are automatically placed in a local section. This could happen in the divisions too.

ComSci: Science and technology subcommittee and programming: There are opportunities here and it doesn't cost us anything. They also write public policy statements. There is a high-level subcommittee on awards we can get involved in. Also a subcommittee of communications that Diana chairs. It's been good interacting with them in the past so we should keep this interaction going and be aware of this.

BREAK

Workshops and Web Education

10:26 – 11:00 AM

- POLY Workshops and Graduate Student Meetings (Hillmyer via Skype)

Thanks to Lesia for putting the presentation together.

Committee Organization: Workshop committee will be contacted and we're taking nominations for new members.

  - POLY Workshops Review of 2019 and overview of 2020 and beyond

We did really well in 2019. In fact historically we have done really well. The workshops for 2020 look good. Projecting $48.8k net proceeds.

  - Webshops

This was successful. We didn't hit the numbers we wanted but still we made money.

  - Graduate Research Polymer Conference
    Looks like this will be a successful conference. There is an IPG Grant request consideration for a thesis competition at this meeting (Knauer).

Discussion: For large workshops that raise a lot of money can we put a small administrative fee on the money raised beyond a certain amount? They are more work.
Other perspective: this is trying to squeeze more out of something that already works well. This might turn off the organizers if you tax their money.

Approval of the Fluoropolymer Workshop. There is a succession plan for organizers and the new organizers are ~~thirsty~~ eager for a successful event.

MOTION: Approve the Fluoropolymer Workshop Proposal
Carried unanimously.

11:10 – 11:52 PM

- **Regional, Science Cafes, and Other Meetings (Dadmun)**
  - ExCom Discussion: What can POLY do to enhance our visibility at Regional Meetings and the impact of these activities? Is there something that we can do at an upcoming regional meeting to explore some of these ideas?

We have a $2000 budget for this. Historically this support comes informally and reactive. We could be much more proactive.

These are great meetings (SERMACS especially) and it's really an untapped resource in many ways. Young faculty go, many students give their first talk at these meeting.

It would be great to be visible here. Reach out to SE/SW regional in NOLA (Oct 2020)

Other ideas: YCC centric. High school teacher training. Student chapter organized events?

Could we have a workshop on how to start student chapters at regional meetings?

We'll be updating the webpage to add regional meeting organizing to our programming portfolio.

In general, it would be good to have folks from each region that could champion this and get them involved in POLY.

- Science Cafes (Mitchem)

This was born at a strat planning session. $200 for a gathering about science/networking event, etc. very few of these groups applied for it in the "correct" way. Usually a request came in and we fit it into the Science Café budgeting category. Put this on the chopping block. We could punt this to the student chapters and have them organize these. Or regional meetings. What we need are champions for this.

Motion: discontinue funding Science Café.
Carried unanimously.

MPPG: we need a committee member on this or doing this. It's an important meeting.

LUNCH, *PARKVIEW ROOM*

National Programming

1:30 – 4:23 PM

- National Programming (Brown, Mathers)
  - Committee Organization
- ACS Meetings: 2020, 2021, and beyond
  - Brown chairing – Philadelphia

Philly is rough dude to ACS giving us 7 room instead of the 9 we asked for. Otherwise programming looks solid.

  - Iacono chairing - San Francisco

Also strong (as usual).

- Plenary Speakers, planning lists for future preparation (Brown, Mathers)
- Looking at past program history (Kasko)

Some interesting data. Attendance isn't strongly correlated with the total number of concurrent symposia. # of symposia and half day sessions has grown.

Proposal: cut general topics and force some posters.

San Fran: room pre assignments. We get 7 rooms.

San Antonio: Tuesday will be a trial block schedule

Atlanta: block and no Thursday

Generally the discussion moved to the way ACS is handling these changes and how we will adjust. How can we adjust our culture? For example, limit the number of half days per symposium, limit for number of talks a person you can give, etc. There is broad support for making some of the changes as long as it is gradual and not onerous.

M&E seems to be pushing toward bringing everyone to the convention center. Reduce footprint, cost, impact, etc.

ACTION ITEM: communicate to membership and organizers that we will be restricting the number of half day sessions in symposia. This will be done in a variety of ways including the newsletter. Mike Meador to lead in drafting this letter, and programming chairs to follow up and Justin to add to web. This will include hard deadlines.

The timeline and workload for programming is bananas. We need to talk about this and figure out how to take pressure off programming chairs. Communication between the ExCom and programming chair needs to be better. Breaking some of the information discussed at the programming lunch off to a separate meeting with ExCom is a good idea. In general we need to improve communication here. This is especially important when a new person comes in. Strong preference from the current programming chairs to have say in appointing the new programming chairs.

Posters: we need to figure out a way to add value and make this desirable. We should maybe have an experiment for San Francisco.

Idea: seeking post doc poster session. Broad support.
Invited poster experiment.
Posters with the plenary?
Appointing a poster task force.

- Programming under Vice-chair (Kasko)

Switching up the org chart to aid this is desirable.

- Organizer/presider appreciation (Mitchem)
- 2020 MACRO and Plenary update (Mitchem/Berda)

  Expensive but money is rolling in.

- National Meeting-Committee Meeting Schedules and Associated Costs (Berda)

A/V cost money. Like: lots. Cut it when possible.

- Poster Awards (Colak)
  - ExComm Discussion: How can POLY be proactive in promoting poster presentations at National Meetings? Is there some "experiment" that we can do in San Francisco or at Spring 2021 National Meeting to elevate posters?

  Cash prizes work and PMSE has had luck with this. We've designed a fair and balanced process for this. Winners are then notified invited to the Wednesday awards session.

Issues:
hard to find judges.
Hard to notify the winners (contact info etc).
Inconsistency among judging.
Poster presenters leave before Wednesday

Suggestions:
Alternate councilors rotate on this.
Need a better way to down select posters. Perhaps select winners at SciMix and then give the ribbons on Tuesday.
Put PDF of the poster on the webpage.
have judging coordinated on site and better communication among the judges.
Spotlight and publicize the winners on the web and social media.

There is broad support for these ideas.

- Continued collaboration with CME on ACS/NASA Symposium
- Considerations for Pacifichem/previously mentioned (Coltrain/Mitchem)

  Did it already.

Webinars (Stratton)

4:23 – 4:35 PM

This was a good idea when it started. We were supposed to work with ACS on this. Laura reached out and got crickets. Then ACS told us they were too full. So we rescheduled for 2020. They said "yeah we're full but we could have you do this for ACS and not for POLY, thereby giving

control to ACS. We're going to give it a shot as an experiment for 2020 as ACS said this should impact us minimally. We are basically doing more work on this than we originally wanted and also lose quite a bit of our control/ownership.

This might not be bad as the audience would be very large and broad here. Marketing would be better too.

Q: will we get this treatment on the webshops?
A: pretty much. Marc negotiated with them and got us a deal. We need to think carefully about this in the budgeting.

Proposal: no honorarium for these now. Now it's blasted to everyone in ACS so it's more prestigious.

3:30 – 4:00 PM

Nominations (Mi Meador)

- 2020 for 2021 Election Slate (Gerbi/Morgan)

Suggestions from the group:

Will Gutekunst for ALT councilor

ACTION ITEM: Email Sarah and Diana suggestions.

- Committee Appointments and Organizational Chart (Meador)

HN is stepped down from workshops, Marc Hillmyer stepped up.
International committee we should think about membership here.
Awards: Add Toby Nelson back, Keep Alan Hopkins, Keep Johan Foster

Proposal: limit terms of committee chairs to 3-5 years.
Some back and forth here. On one hand, institutional memory is short on the other hand we don't want committee chairs for life.

Sunday, January 26, 2020

AGENDA

4:00 – 5:00 PM (lol)	Industrial Advisory Board (Lipscomb) ● Committee Reporting and Leadership Plan Peter Boul joins the leadership team. He is very excited and has several ideas. o IPS Award Going well as usual. One day of programming is about right for sustaining interesting and exciting speakers. Networking reception is still the flagship event and its continues to receive rave reviews. IAB currently pursuing new initiatives. Colloids workshop is one and on the table for 2022. Wei Gao is on it and she is outstanding. Biggest news/issue. If IAB takes on the IPS award this would be possible but it would take away from other budget initiatives. There is some concern here. This award was one of the 4 that we were supposed to endow. Since IAB is part of POLY this isn't really sponsorship. Decision: IAB to fund other initiatives and POLY continue to fund IPS.
8:00 – 9:00 AM	**Memberships, Member-at-Large (Knauer)** ● Current Membership Statistics Steady around 4000 Budget of $6k and this appears to be money well spent. ● Membership IPG Grant Progress o IPG Grant request consideration for a thesis competition/mentioned previously (Knauer) 3-minute thesis competition. This will start in the student chapters and then the winners will compete at the VTech grad student conference. The grant will support some travel, broadcasting it live, recording it, etc. Details are still under construction. POLY Shark Tank at the rocky mountain regional meeting 2021. This will be fun and we're currently seeking sponsors. The venue looks good. ● Student Chapters New chapter at UMass Amherst and UT Dallas. UF wins chapter of the year. BASF would like to fund the student social but want to ensure there is value to them so we're doing a scavenger hunt to force the students to network. There will be prizes. The networking socials have been good and are spreading to the regional meetings.

Member benefits is on the web now and constantly being updated. Check it and send suggestions.

Discussion finished with ideas to promote membership, student chapters, and highlight member benefits.

9:00 - 9:30 AM

Treasurer's Reporting (Coltrain)

- Finalize 2020 Budget

On dues: increase? We should check the bylaws and see what we have to do to vote on this.

Question: why are we so far into the red? Mostly allocations and dues.

ACTION ITEM: Task force on budget to understand this better. Greg to Chair this, committee includes Semra, Christine, Kate, Mike. - NOTE – It might have been Mark Dadmun rather than Kate. Anyone recall?

As always, this discussion was lively. In the end we have several places to look at for decreased spending and increased revenue. This will continue at the national meetings.

Fund raising: it may be worth having a brain storming session about fund raising.

ACTION ITEM: Send Mike names for this session.

Motion: Approve the 2020 budget and withdraw from investments no more than $194k to cover deficit.
Carried unnanimously

9:30 – 11:00 AM

Education & Professional Development (Morgan and Hillmyer)

-
- Polyed/IPEC and Future Funding (Gerbi, Morgan, Costanzo)
  - MACRO Education Committee, including funding discussion ($300 website request)

This is going well. There are initiatives for outreach, curriculum, and professional development. They have proposed to use the PolyEd budget until it's exhausted.
Some concern about this budget so we'd like to see more details. It's great to see this effort revitalized.

- Awards (Foster)
  - 2020 Award Schedule and deadlines
  - The need for two Bio/Macro Judges
  - Endowments and other sponsorship opportunities
  - Moving forward to include committee member review per Colak's recent Vice-Chair selection

    Discussion came around to diversity in the awardees and plenary speakers. This is related in many ways to nominations.

Maybe we need a committee to solicit nominations. This should be separate from the awards committee.

We need reviewers for the Macro/Biomacro Young investigator award. Kathryn is willing, we're asking Malika as well.

- POLY Fellows (Gerbi)

Looking good. Can we nominate people that are on the ExCom? Apparently, that isn't a problem.

Usually we discuss this at the Fall meeting.

- ACS Fellows (Meador/Group)

Get from slide. Solicit ideas.

ACTION ITEM: Mike to get feedback on nominations.

ACTION ITEM: Send successful nominations to new nominators.

Critical: what is the service and how was it impactful.

Names to add to the slate on slide: Travis Baughman

- Distinguished/Service Award (Meador)

HN Cheng – excellence in grad research
Hillmyer - Webinars etc
Iocano – special service.

11:00 – 12:00 PM

Publications, Marketing and Outreach (Pentzer)

- Website

  Adding regional meetings, sponsorship, and symposium organizing

- Social Media: LinkedIn, Facebook, Youtube, Listserv

  Twitter is strong. Linked In not so much.

  Temporary Tattoos. Fun and engaging. No #wheresyourpoly

  Snapchat filter for the franklin institute.

- Graphical Abstracts, Preprint Library, and ACS Book Sales (Linkous, Coltrain)

  Basically managed at the office now. Reddy does a lot of work here.
  Several libraries bought CDs, 2 dropped subscriptions.
  Makes some money (~$1.5k)

- E-News and Newsletters (Berda, Linkous)

  Again the instrument manufacturers are a major source here.
  Listen to Kathy: get info to Carlee when she requests in.
  E-news writer?

As time allows	**PMSE Interaction (Mike Meador)** **Review of strat (Gerbi)**

Adjorn.