

Minutes for Executive Committee Meeting
Central PA Local Section
American Chemical Society
05 December 2024, 18:00
Hoss's Steak and Sea House *
1450 N Atherton St, State College, PA

Expected Attendees:

Adam Herring (PSU, 2024 Chair)
Zack Rhoden (PSU, 2025 Chair)
Aaron Garner (PSU, Treasurer)
Kate Penrod (PSU, Secretary)
Lori Stepan (PSU, Councilor)
Joe Houck (PSU, Alternate Councilor)
~~Christine Mahajan (PSU, Newsletter Chair)~~
Jason Cross (PSU, 2025 Chair-Elect)
~~Goli Ghajar (Local Section Guest)~~
Saumojit Banerjee (Local Section Guest)

Proposed Agenda:

1. Attendance/introductions
2. Review and Acceptance of [Previous Meeting Minutes](#)
 - a. Please review prior to meeting and point out any errors, omissions, or corrections!
3. Call for Additional Agenda Items
 - a. Discuss appointment of committee heads if time permits
 - b. Official results of election
4. General Plans for 2025 (Open Discussion)
 - a. Please come with ideas and feedback!
 - b. What do you want to do or see happen from ACS CPA in 2025
 - c. Ayusman's documentary – we should have a screening
 - d. Liz Jolly interested in chairing the Women Chemists Committee
 - e. Technical talks and perhaps a talk aimed more general science audience
 - f. Maybe something akin to Millennium Science Coffee Café and Networking
 - g. Different groups/universities put on talks all the time – should we try to integrate this in some way?
 - h. Graduate and undergraduate presenting together would be interesting – practice talk kind of experience
 - i. In general, more experience for undergraduates to present research or scientific talks to improve their professional development
 - j. Aaron and Amie giving a talk on drug chemistry
 - k. Lecture discussing black plastics, PFAS, etc.
 - l. Need a balance of technical talks and more general audience events
 - m. Maybe faculty members who are close to promotion
 - n. 100th Anniversary of Juniata Chemistry next year – maybe collaborate with them on this and John P. Reeves lecture, at least for promoting their events
 - o. More events outside of Penn State
 - p. Outreach with high school students? (in addition to Chemistry Olympiad)

- q. Science Olympiad in mid-February – would be helpful for us to advertise this event
- 5. Reflection and Closing Report on MARM 2024 (Joe)
 - a. Finance summary, including any unresolved reimbursements
 - i. All reimbursements have been received from ACS National
 - ii. Small grants have also been handled
 - iii. Conferences and Institutes has been handled
 - iv. Rough estimate: \$24,000 profit from MARM - \$8,000 still owed to ACS National
 - v. Kyle and Joe will write up a report at the end of this semester
 - b. Attendance, attendee perception, things that worked well (or didn't work well)
- 6. Anticipated 2025 Budget Update (Aaron)
 - a. Current state of local section budget, including outstanding MARM expenses
 - b. Financial account access details (adding/removing individuals as discussed)
 - c. Fall Councilor Travel Reimbursement
 - d. MARM Revenue: ~\$24,000 (- \$8,000) expected
 - e. Budgeting for next year: \$14,000
 - f. Poster Symposium beverages have been paid for, but still outstanding expenses
 - g. Should have surplus after settling MARM finances
 - h. PNC Investment account has been continuing to grow as well
 - i. Combine accounts and remove Kyle after resolving outstanding expenses
- 7. Annual Report for 2024 (Adam)
 - a. Discuss plans and delegate tasks for completing Annual Report to ACS National
 - b. Annual Report due electronically by 15 Feb 2025 ([details here](#))
 - c. Aaron, Zack, Lori, Jason will need to be involved in this
 - i. Forward information to Adam
 - ii. [Chem Luminary Awards](#) – Joe or Lori to attend
 - iii. Community Connections
- 8. Centennial Celebration Update (Joe and Anyone Else Who Attended)
 - a. Attendance, attendee perception, things that worked well (or didn't work well)
 - i. Good food and talk was very engaging
 - ii. Technical challenges – mounted microphone
 - iii. Maybe do the technical talk first, then dinner, then poster presentations
 - iv. Undergraduates left early
 - v. Ended up with a net gain of poster submissions after date was changed
 - vi. Poster session felt more engaging than usual – undergraduates were looking at other undergraduate's posters
 - b. Plans to return to typical Poster Symposium workflow next year
 - i. Life Sciences / Benkovic Bridge with poster easels
 - ii. Late September or Early October on a Weekday Evening
 - iii. Refreshments from either Dominos Pizza or Wegmans Catering
 - iv. Could make some upgrades and keep the venue at the bridge
 - v. Continue inviting graduate students if capacity admits
- 9. Chemistry Olympiad Coordinator Follow-Up (Joe?)
 - a. Jo Bevilacqua will serve as interim coordinator
 - b. Bob White was former Science Coordinator, but has since stepped down
 - c. Will have new coordinator moving forward
 - d. Will need to avoid conflicts with laboratory sections

10. Involving and Engaging Local Section Members (Open Discussion)

- a. Please come with ideas and feedback!
- b. If you wish to be more involved, but aren't sure how, make your interest known so we can work together to find a suitable role for you in the Local Section!

11. Official Election Results – New roles take effect 01 January 2025

- a. Total Votes: 30

Position Title	Term Length	Elected ACS CPA Representative	Percentage of Votes
<i>Current Chair</i>	2 years*	Zachary Rhoden (zcr5008@psu.edu)	N/A, previously elected
<i>Chair-Elect</i>	3 years**	Jason Cross (jpc20@psu.edu)	97 % (one write-in vote)
<i>Immediate Past Chair</i>	1 year	Adam Herring (ajh6037@psu.edu)	N/A, previously elected
<i>Treasurer</i>	2 years	Aaron Garner (rag57@psu.edu)	100 % (unanimous)
<i>Secretary</i>	1 year	Katheryn Penrod (kap335@psu.edu)	100 % (unanimous)
<i>Councilor</i>	3 years	Lori Stepan (lsv10@psu.edu)	100 % (unanimous)
<i>Alternate Councilor</i>	3 years	Joseph Houck (jdj68@psu.edu)	100 % (unanimous)
*1 year as Current Chair + 1 year as Immediate Past Chair			
**1 year as Chair-Elect + 1 year as Current Chair + 1 year as Immediate Past Chair			

12. Appointment of Committee Heads

- a. Sam wants to design a workshop to get undergraduate involvement
- b. Adam has a list of six individuals who reached out and two individuals to reach out to
 - i. Unfortunately, no one from Lock Haven or Juniata
 - ii. Kara Pytko – Former GSA representative, current faculty member at Juniata
 - iii. Kyle Root is not opposed to future involvement also
 - iv. Also interested: Last Name: Lange, first name is unknown
- c. Non-ACS members cannot chair committees or hold executive positions
- d. Committees changed recently as we updated our bylaws – Executive Committee designates Committee Heads now
- e. Joe should be our Program Chair
- f. Bylaws call for a few standing committees which will need heads
 - i. Nominations – Jason & Adam
 - ii. Elections – Aaron
 - iii. Program – Joe
 - iv. Outreach – Lori
 - v. NCW / NCCEW – Lori

13. Scheduling the next Executive Committee Meeting: Tues 04 February at 18:00 at Hoss's

- a. Need to add this date and possibly calendar to ACS CPA website

Meeting adjourned at 19:52 on 05 December 2024