



American Chemical Society

Division of Biological Chemistry

Minutes of the Fall 2013 Business Meeting of the Division of Biological Chemistry - Wednesday, September 11, 2013, 11:45 – 1:15 pm Palomino's Restaurant, Indianapolis

Attended by: Sheila David, Neil Kelleher, Hung-wen Liu, Dewey McCafferty, Anne-Frances Miller, Eugene Mueller, Nigel Richards, Scott Silverman and Chris Whitman.

(1) Chair's Report presented by Hung-wen Liu

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all of the Division of Biological Chemistry (DBC) officers. He reported that the Division continues to be active and outlined his goals for the last year of his tenure, which include finalizing the updated by-laws and re-writing the eligibility requirements of the Pfizer and Lilly awards. In addition, he emphasized the need of the Division to increase the number and diversity of awards, and to find new strategies for increasing the number of award nominations. He also noted that Squire Booker had decided to end his tenure as MPPG representative of the Division. Finally, he congratulated Sheila David for her efforts in putting together an outstanding technical program at the Indianapolis ACS National Meeting. Presentations at the student symposium had been excellent and many posters of high quality had been exhibited.

(2) Report of the Secretary presented by Nigel Richards.

A number of small errors in the minutes of the Spring 2013 business meeting were noted. The revised minutes will be presented at the Spring 2014 business meeting by the Secretary. He informed those present that the online election in November 2013 would again be run by vote-now.com given the overwhelming enthusiasm of the Division membership for the web page. He also updated the meeting on the status of the updated set of Division by-laws, which will be circulated by the Chair for discussion, amendment and approval at the Spring 2014 business meeting. The secretary described having difficulty in obtaining sufficient councilors for the ACS Council meeting in Indianapolis for a variety of reasons, including the dates of the meeting conflicting with teaching commitments and the fact that the program was composed primarily of award symposia. It was resolved that all those nominated for election to the position of Councilor be informed of the need for them to attend the ACS Council meeting.

(3) Report of the Treasurer presented by Chris Whitman.

Detailed information concerning the current fiscal position of the DBC was provided by the treasurer, including the provision of support for speakers in the Division programming at ACS national meetings and funding for conferences and other DBC-related events. The Division continues to enjoy access to significant financial resources, and there was discussion about how these monies might be most effectively used. One suggestion was to provide increased travel support for assistant professors. He also reported that the costs of printing brochures for the DBC awards banquet was substantial and that many of these brochures were not distributed. Discussion ensued as to whether these materials should continue to be prepared.

(4) ACS meeting issues presented by Sheila David.

As chair of the Program Committee, Sheila David discussed the program for the 2013 Fall ACS National Meeting in Indianapolis, IN. It was generally agreed the program had been strong, and that the poster sessions had been well-attended even though the total attendance at the meeting was substantially lower than usual. The Program Committee chair then updated the meeting about planning for the Spring ACS meeting, which will be held in Dallas in March 2014. The BIOL program will feature the ACS Chemical Biology Lectureship, to be given by Peter Dervan, and a co-sponsored symposium with ORGN honoring the contributions of Marv Caruthers who will receive the ACS Award in ***.

(5) Funding requests presented by Sheila David.

Funding requests received prior to August 1, 2013 were reviewed by the officers and committee members present at the meeting. Support was provided for the following meetings:

2014 Workshop on Nucleic Acid Chemistry, July 28 – August 1, 2014, Telluride, CO, Organizer, Christine Chow. \$750

FASEB Summer Conference on "Machines on Genes", June 22-27, 2014, Snowmass, CO, Organizers, Brandt Eichman, Jeffrey Kieft & Thomas Carell. \$750

2014 Isotopes in Biological & Chemical Sciences GRC, February 2-7, 2014, Galveston, TX, Organizer, Amnon Kohen. \$1500

2014 Metals in Biology GRC, January 26-31, 2014, Ventura, CA, Organizer, Joan Broderick. \$1000

2014 Bioinorganic Chemistry GRS, January 31 – February 1, 2014, Ventura, CA, Organizer, Joan Broderick. \$1000

Steenbock Symposium in Honor of the Life of W. W. Cleland, May 22-24, 2014, Madison, WI, Organizer, Hazel Holden. \$1000

5th Biannual Texas Enzyme Mechanisms Meeting, January 3-4, 2014, Austin, TX, Organizer, Chris Whitman. \$1000

(6) Other Business, Presented by Hung-wen Liu.

In accordance with the revised procedures adopted at the Spring 2013 business meeting, Scott Silverman and Anne-Frances Miller presented a detailed list of people who had been nominated to stand in the November 2013 elections. Nominating committee members had contacted these individuals and provided them with an idea of their duties and responsibilities if elected. Discussion of the candidates ensued and a final slate of election nominees was approved by all those present.

Procedures for selecting and nominating Division members for the ACS Fellows program were also discussed. These Division nomination packets will be prepared by the Chair.