

Oklahoma Academy of Science
Executive Council Meeting Agenda
Oklahoma State University Centers for Health Sciences
November 3, 2016

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda (President Conley) 6:48 PM
Approved, seconded, passed (voice)
2. Introductions
3. Special thanks to:
 - A. Technical meeting organizer (Earl Blewett)
 - B. OSU-CHS administrators
 - Johnny Stephens, Interim Vice-President of Research, will be at luncheon
 - Bruce Benjamin, Associate VP/ former Dean
 - This is the first time a large university (OU and OSU) have hosted in years
4. Minutes of the November 12, 2015 Executive Council meeting (Mather)
--Ryburn motion, approved, passes (Voice)
5. Financial Report (Bass)
 - A. Detailed financial report
 - OAS above, OJAS Below
 - OAS Checking is the account we work from; 99% of the work comes from there. We are healthy, with a good turnout for the meeting. The new registration and payment system developed by Adam is effective. There is nothing out of the ordinary positive or negative. The savings and endowment are basically the same.
 - The Junior Academy accounts are slowly dropping and will take a hit this year. We have been funding winners out of this, and have about 3-5 years left until the account goes dead. There is no Junior Academy Director. The Executive Director recommends we continue as we are until it dries up. We cannot go into the endowment. If people have ideas how to generate money that is helpful. We have two students going to AAAS meeting selected by judges. We pay for their lodging and registration fees, but had to cut transportation. We are asking to cover the Breakfast with Scientists (Nobel Laureates, Directors of National Laboratories; High caliber scientists with 6-8 students rotating tables). We have always donated to that event (\$500). This is good recognition for us to sponsor and have our name on it. Executive Director would like to take money from the Senior Academy funds instead of Junior Academy as usual. Executive Director would like the endorsement from Executive Council to do this. Revenue is up because of more registrations in the 4 conferences in metropolitan areas.
 - Adam motion to contribute \$500 to AAAS to support students for the Breakfast
 - Second
 - Discussion
 - Conley: We can do this annually to monitor it.
 - Passes unanimously (voice vote)
 - Jimmie Pigg and Kathy Donovan both left endowments at 7% interest to OJAS. We cannot touch the principal. Their heirs may not allow out. Bass: We should leave it alone.
 - What should we do to revitalize OJAS? Bass: Director, \$10,000 per year, meeting like this organized with local competition, regional competition, state competition, and cooperation of the teachers.
 - Emporia State does a weeklong science camp day trip to raise money for the academy; Faculty spend the summer to do it, might not involve the teachers but the parents instead.

- OU has a similar program. Adam: All universities have this; We would be competing against schools with state funding support.
- Are they lab or field? Adam: Combination; Conley: There are three at Cameron.
- Adam: For exposure, how can we get attached to some of those?
- Conley: If we were to do this, we would need to recruit people to support it and find a venue.
- We could introduce some of our publications at these events, particularly the State Fair and then Tulsa Event. Bass: We already do this at Science Fair.
- Could the Junior Academy fit with our Technical meeting?
- Bass: Most Junior Academies are completely separate from Senior Academies; 28 are completely separate, most have competitions associated with their science fairs. It is hard to bring students together multiple times. It is complex and was great when we had the funding, teachers loved it, and some State money came from Science Fair split with Junior Academy. Old teachers involved retired and new ones are hard to get involved and are difficult to get on board because the incentive system in teaching and demands are different.
- Conley: Biomedical students and Tech Centers may be the students to target as a population. Lawton Great Plains Tech Center, Caddo-Kiowa has biomed and engineering; Tech Centers have a tax basis and are better funded than high schools.
- Adam: Can we get on their annual meeting agenda (Career Techs) in August?
- Conley: I will contact Great Plains
- Conley: Project Lead the Way meeting in early spring
- Bass: Age range—6th grade to 12th grade; incredible kids
- Do we know where any of the STARS kids went? Mathematician, some kids; Can they be mentors? Donors? Grove and Byng were active in science fairs;
- Conley: At OCU, it got smaller and smaller. Adam: It is down to 3 schools; Duncan still has one but the teachers are not involved.
- Between evaluation and funding, it is difficult to get public school teachers involved.
- Francis Tuttle has good resources.
- Bass: OAS made money on Field Meetings and Technical Meeting in the past few years.
- Motion to accept the corrected budget; Second; Passes unanimously (voice vote)

6. Future Meetings of the OAS

A. Field Meetings

- Spring 2017, Robbers Cave SP (King) tentative March 31-April 2; MUST BE TENTATIVE UNTIL FIRST OF THE YEAR; Chris Wilson of UCO made the reservation
- Fall 2017, Quarts Mountain Nature Park (Butler) tentative Sept. 29-Oct. 1; PENCILED IN UNTIL CALL AND CONFIRM

B. TBA: 2017 Technical Meeting (Conley) NO HOST SITE

- Bass: did someone contact OC? Adam: ECU; Rogers State could host now or in 2019; ECU charge for use? Big rooms, small rooms, banquet area, rooms that hold 25; Bass UCO can do 2019
- Council could authorize Executive Committee to accept an acceptance to host from OC
- Conly: Executive Committee will keep the Executive Council posted on OC

C. 2018 Technical Meeting (Conley)

- SWOSU, Weatherford, OK, November 9, 2018, Peter Grant, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- No institutional history of hosting, so wanted to come to visit and learn about it; Probably good grounds for our recruitment of active members

7. Academy Reports, Proposals, Questions, and Discussion
 - A. Proceedings of the Oklahoma Academy of Science (Elshahed)
 - Journal is doing great, 18 submissions, on track to get everything done on time, late December or early January. Mostly recurring authors, which could be a problem if they do not publish or if they retire. We need to broaden the author base. The goal is to make the papers better and not reject them. The Council should make an effort to publicize with colleagues.
 - Adam: Abstract deadline will move per discussion with Elshahed; \$38 in proceedings (\$35 + \$3 paypal fee)
 - Conley: Section Chairs should mention abstract publication opportunity
 - Comment: On the form force them to put an abstract so it is ready to go if they want to have it published.
 - Adam: Abstract is submitted differently to Technical Meeting than to POAS (OSU system)
 - Elshahed: I don't have any abstracts yet
 - Bass: I had one
 - Adam: It may be easier to put it all on one form. It may help departments pay for it as one bill for registration
 - November 13th is the date to submit abstracts, but as long as it comes before printing in December it is fine
 - Conley: Publicize the abstract deadline extension
 - Bass: Publicize this at the Business Meeting
 - B. OAS Collegiate Academy Director (Ryburn)
 - 30 graduate oral presentation
 - 46 undergraduate oral presentations
 - 36 posters (32 students)
 - We need judges. We sent an e-mail to registrants and section Chairs.
 - Earl does not have any local faculty who will judge posters in the afternoon.
 - We need judges in the poster afternoon session. Judges do not need to be an expert in the content area, as the evaluation is based on flow.
 - Lisa Overall can help
 - We have judging forms at this meeting or available tomorrow at the main desk
 - C. Section Reports (Chair or Vice-Chair)
 - Section J: Biochemistry/Biophysics; Biomedical part of the program is about 4 pages. Biochemistry but not molecular biology. Would like to redefine the name of the section. Pharmaceutical, genes—Biomedical is more broad than Biochemical, so Section J and Section N are competing. Adam: Do we put them together or recategorize them?
 - Biomedical sciences can be divided: Drugs and mechanism part. Rice: This is similar to Biology and Botany. Bass: Section Chairs need to be involved in this discussion on redefine and split or combine. Proposed to merge them as one with subsections, Emailed faculty at other institutions to see what they thought; Bass: Tomorrow bring this up at the section meeting, perhaps get the other section to do it. Conley: Try to combine the business meetings. Adam: They meet at the same time, so 107 and 111 room numbers, put a note on the door and suggest they have two concurrent sections going on at the same time but not adding to the larger one. Bass: There is a protocol, but the Council is open to section-driven requests.
 - Bass: Section Chairs, are you aware of any members who have passed away in the past few years? Three names currently on list for remembrance moment of silence.
 - D. Banquet at noon on November 4, 2016

--Banquet location is downstairs; Speaker Robert Allen; Bass: Sold out for tickets; Question: Is there a location where the students can eat? Earl sent Adam local eatery list, will see if can print the list and post it. Bass: 67 preregisters, 75 total lunch; People can still come listen to the speaker, but ca not eat. There are 247 registered. Rogers State is bringing 2 buses to watch. OCU has 15 coming just to watch.

8. Old Business

- A. Recycling at field meetings. Stan Rice brought it up. Black Mesa it was so crowded that people could not see the recycling sign, so they threw much recycling in trash. Who will be willing to do it? Bass: Pickup truck is needed; Rice: We need to specify clean recyclables. Wilson (UCO) will do it at the next Spring Field Meeting. Richard will do it in the Fall.
- B. Bloggers needed! Social-media-savvy types needed to write blog entries and upload photos to document and publicize OAS meetings. Adam: Can give access to blog on OAS site; Archived Rice's old site blogs on new site; Rice: Goal is to show that Field meetings are fun, serves as recruitment.
- C. New website is live; also have Facebook and Twitter (Adam)
 - Conley: Website looks excellent; friendly, and inviting, easy to navigate
 - Adam: Changes occur in real time now.
 - Jerry Bowen would do weekly science picture; Adam: on the FB page this would be perfect; Cycle through sections.
 - Facebook Page: Adam and Ken Hobson are some of the administrators.
- D. List of OAS liaisons for each Oklahoma campus needed to facilitate communication and promote participation in OAS meetings, especially student presentations at the Annual Technical Meeting and general attendance at the field meetings.
 - Bass may have list of liaison contacts in e-mail.
 - Conley: We will pick this back up.

9. New Business (Conley)

- A. Elect new sectional vice-chairs and report their names and contact information to David Bass
 - Bass: There is a form to do this and will get those to the front desk for section chairs; leave those right before and after the luncheon; need contact info, especially email.
- B. Should we continue the practice of hosting two annual field meetings, or has been discussed consider replacing one of those with an event designed to serve the broader needs of the membership? If so, what form would those other events take?
 - Bass: Historically, we have not always run field meetings annually. In the 1970's we went to fall and spring. Fall is well attended, Spring has uncertain attendance. We need to preserve Fall. Spring is the optional one if we discuss that.
 - Adam: We need a speaker with something that is not just Biology.
 - Conley: The survey indicated we have too much emphasis on biology and need to promote more to other areas. The Technical Meeting is the only thing that meets the needs of others. Often we conflict with Oklahoma Research Day and Tri Beta.
 - Rice: Needs to be different enough that it is not just a second Technical meeting.
 - Conley: Perhaps as symposium in the spring, rotating sites?
 - Rice: Who would come to a special meeting in the spring?
 - Adam: It could be in the winter because it would be inside.
 - Bass: It needs to be in a metropolitan area.
 - Comment: We could have major industry lab tours.
 - Panel discussions?

- Bass: We want to start early morning and end mid-afternoon so no overnight travel.
 - Conley: Similar to the INBRE Workshop last spring.
 - Adam: Spring 2018 or the following year?
 - Discussion: Spring 2018
 - Rice: It could be at the Tulsa Botanical Garden, not necessarily a college or university.
 - Bass: Earlier in semester is better, after perhaps after Research Day? Mid-February because earlier? This would be targeted for professionals presenting, not students (students could attend)
 - History of Science Museum at OU?
 - University may not pay if they are not presenting.
 - Morning talks and workshop, afternoon tour of something?
 - Noble Science Research Foundation in Ardmore?
 - Could be a regional focus.
 - USDA?
 - Kerr Center at Poteau?
 - Conley: Ad hoc committee of volunteers who would like to work on this with an initial spring symposium instead of a field meeting in 2018
 - Adam: Rotate focus with Section Chairs with different topic each year
 - Botany and Biology did the Field Meetings. Geography was incorporated once.
 - Adam will coordinate the ad hoc committee and get the first year theme.
 - Conley and Rice will be on the committee.
 - Comment: Incorporate environment and weather; OU Weather Station.
 - Adam: Too close to last year's Oklahoma climate change theme.
 - History of Science would be good; Might get OU people; Might get public.
 - OMRF for a tour?
 - Bring in a speaker and use host school to help fund.
 - Rogers State will bring people.
 - NASA groups cannot be paid if they come
 - We could make the first topic about the trip to Mars.
 - Conley: There are many small NASA grants in state. Redlands has interfaced with NASA well.
 - Adam: Will keep the Executive Council informed through E-mail.
- C. Please continue promoting OAS meetings with your students and colleagues!
- We need to recruit the next generation of OAS members, promote the value and benefits membership provides, and promote it as a kind, low pressure outlet to present at with junior faculty and students.
- D. Fall Newsletter
- Bass: None was published. Usually contains President's message and dates. The website covers this now. The goal was to disseminate information and website serves that function.
 - Adam: We decided at the Oklahoma Research Day Executive Council Meeting not to do the newsletter.
 - Bass: We send e-mails with this information to all members.
 - Comment: Would be good to send to Vice-Presidents of Academic Affairs, as it may get distributed to different channels.
 - Bass: The idea is that liaisons would do this on their campus: Can we do this with texts?
 - Adam: "Remind" would work for texts
 - Adam: We are not registered on Google, but we come up on the search.

- Perhaps a Google Profile would help, and it may be free. We may come up in the “similar page” category.
- Adam: Social media is important. Tagged students in OAS Field meeting photo and gained 15 likes.
- We need to change the constitution regarding the newsletter, so we will suspend the newsletter (unanimous).

E. Other Business

- Geology division is essentially defunct. No paper in several years.
- Rice: Combine with Geography?
- Geographer: Switching section chair back and forth; ECU, UCO are good at bringing in students; Can do a better job of recruiting, visit with OSU; need undergraduate research to be promoted so far.
- Bass: Technically they have been under probationary suspension for several years. Koll took it over at a meeting a few years ago having an interest; Bass would hate to see it go; -
 - Leave it suspended?
- Conley: OU, TU, OSU have Geology, regionals don't have much. RSU has associates.
- Regionals cannot have it as a program
- Adam: We need to have it.
- Conley: Leave it?
- Section letter system creates gaps when we drop or add something
- No chemistry section, but the fall into physical sciences; Usually one or two
- Bass: OAS models after AAAS with letters; Section G is not the same topic in OAS as AAAS. Taxonomic model is the same.
- Could have a screening committee to assign section where the presentations go; prescreening committee.
- Adam: Deadlines make this difficult to do
- Comment: Could do primary and secondary sections.
- Adam: We currently have that, and could make that available to section chairs.
- Donations
- Conley: Put a donation box on the website?
- Adam: Easy to do; do through Paypal and designated as “donation”
- Conley: Put statement “Would you like to donate to OAS?” and same with OJAS
- Adam: We could put specific categories for funds to honor retirees, fund undergraduate awards for each section, etc.
- Donate button, then page with boxes for specifics.
- Comment: Get sponsors, company registrations with higher fees.
- Adam: Host institutions have the burden to do things like this to raise money, find sponsorships, and obtain money from administration.
- Comment: This is a good market for companies to meet potential recruits.

10. Announcements

- A. Southwestern Association of Naturalists 64th Annual Meeting to be held April 13-16, 2017 at Cameron University in Lawton, OK.
 - Wichita Mountains is a draw, one of only primary undergraduate institutions to host
- B. National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR) 2018 to be held April 4-7, 2018 at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond, OK
 - 5,000 to 6,000 students will be there
- C. Other Announcements

--Bass: Adam put in a great deal of work in registration. This was the smoothest registration process of any year.

D. Next Executive Council Meeting. Had gathering last spring at Oklahoma Research Day with about 15; It would be good to do again this year.

--Bass: It helped to get the new vice-chairs up and running.

--Conley: This year it will be at Northwestern in Enid: We will try for 11 AM.

--We will try to not overlap with sessions.

--Oklahoma Research Day starts at 8:30 or 9 AM.

--Conley: We will try to find a time.

11. Meeting Adjourned at 9:14 PM