Oklahoma Academy of Science
Executive Council Meeting Agenda
29 October 2025
Zoom - 5:30 PM-7:00 PM

**Attendance:** Adam Ryburn, Alisha Howard, April Nesbit, Chris Shelton, Andrew Wells, Daniel Rocha, Patrick McAnerney, Mostafa Elshahed, Eric Howard, Renan Janke Bosque, Michelle Lastrina, Amanda Nichols, Mark Peaden, Zack Sanders, Charles Crittell, Nasreen Alsou, Hannah King, Rachel Jones.

1. Call to Order (Adam Ryburn): 5:35pm
2. Introductions
3. Minutes of the October 30, 2024 Executive Council meeting (Mitra) – minutes were approved
4. Meeting updates/announcements (Hannah King)
    a. Being hosted in the biological sciences building, not at the main campus, parking maps are available on the website
    b. Presentation will be held in 6 lecture rooms
    c. 280 people pre-registered (likely more on site)
    d. 87 posters, 55 oral presentation (talks in the morning, posters in the afternoon)
5. Resolution to thank the host institution (Ryburn, Peaden, Mitra) – resolution passed unanimously
6. Financial Report (Ryburn)

Will be discussed at the General Business meeting

*POAS* Volume 104 (2024)
14 articles from 25 authors
22 abstracts of the 2024 Technical Meeting

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| Editor Expense | : $3,000.00 |
| Printing Expense | : $1407.00 |
| Mailing Expense | : $417.50 |
| Total Expenses | : $4,824.50 |

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| Page Charges | : $5,085.00 |
| Abstract Charges | : $455.00 |
| Total Revenue | : $5,540.00 |

Net Profit: $715.50

- There are 3 CD and 2 overall accounts. The accounts that were closed did not generate enough interest (~1.50/year).
- Endowment accounts sat in CD till summer 2024 and not generating enough interest. The earned interest was invested into a 7 month CD, which will be transferred into OJAS account. These funds will be used to send OJAS candidates to NJAS.

7. Academy Reports, Proposals, Questions, and Discussion
    A. Proceedings of the Oklahoma Academy of Science (Elshahed)
        a. 12 new articles have been accepted.
        b. Production is on track.
    B. Collegiate Academy Director (Peaden)
        a. 55 poster & 31 oral undergraduate students eligible for awards
        b. 9 oral & 14 poster presentation for graduate students
        c. Looking for more judges
    C. Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science (Hannah King)
        a. Working closely with OSSEF who also work with ISSEF.

b. Trying to build mentorship programs to allow high school students to conduct more long-term projects
c. These science fairs are held in February and candidates will be selected out of the winners to attend the national conferences.

D. Section Reports (Chair and/or Vice-Chair)
A. Biological Science (McAnerney & Sanders)
a. Botany
i. 6 talks (1 UG, 3 graduate, 2 professional)
ii. 4 posters (3 undergraduate, 1 graduate)
b. Zoology
i. 4 talks (1 UG, 1 graduate, 2 professional)
ii. 17 posters (16 undergraduate, 1 graduate)
B. Geology (Shelton or Khameiss)
a. 1 talk (Shelton)
C. Physical Sciences (Tayo and Nichols)
a. 5 talks (2 UG, 2 graduate, 1 professional)
b. 6 posters (4 UG, 2 professional)
D. Social Sciences (D. Williams)
a. 2 talks (2 professional)
b. 1 poster (professional)
E. Science Communication and Education (Olson and K. Williams)
a. 1 talk (professional)
b. 2 posters (1 UG, 1 professional)
F. Geography (Ryburn)
c. No presentations
G. Applied Ecology and Conservation (Bosque and Rocha)
a. 4 talks (3 undergraduate, 1 graduate)
b. 10 posters (9 undergraduate, 1 graduate)
H. Microbiology (Nesbit and Mitra)
a. 5 talks (3 undergraduate, 2 graduate)
b. 16 posters (all undergraduate)
I. Engineering Sciences (Alsbou and Xu)
a. 3 talks (all undergraduate)
b. 9 posters (all undergraduate)
J. Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Das and Mattison)
a. 11 talks (all undergraduate)
b. 9 posters (8 undergraduate, 1 graduate)
K. Microscopy (King)
a. 1 poster (undergraduate)
L. Math, Computer Sci., & Statistics (Wells and Lastrina)
a. 4 talks (2 undergraduate, 2 professional)
M. Environmental Science (E. Howard and Crittell)
a. 1 talk (undergraduate)
N. Biomedical Sciences (A Howard)
a. 8 talks (4 undergraduate, 1 graduate, 3 professional)
b. 11 posters (10 undergraduate, 1 graduate)

8. New Business
A. The future of Fall Field Meetings
a. 2025 meeting was cancelled because a group campsite was not available and caterer was not available.
b. Consider changing the time for the Fall meeting
B. Current composition of sections

a. Consider combining some sections.
b. Chris Shelton & Eric Howard proposed combining Geology & Geography & Environmental Sciences and rename it to Natural Sciences.

C. New Executive Director
a. Adam Ryburn wants us to start thinking about the next candidate for this position.

D. Prize money
a. Consider giving cash money as prizes to undergraduate presenters.
b. Utilize the CD investment returns for the cash prize.
c. 1st Place UG - $100 in poster & $100 in oral
d. 2nd Place UG - $50 in poster & $50 in oral
e. 1st Place Graduate - $100 in poster & $100 in oral

9. Future Meetings of the OAS
A. 2026 Fall Field Meeting – no plans yet and more discussion to come.
B. 2026 Technical Meeting tentatively on November 6 in Oklahoma City University

10. Announcements
a. Elect new sectional vice-chairs and report their names and contact information to Adam Ryburn

11. Adjournment: 7:06pm