Oklahoma Academy of Science
Executive Council Meeting Agenda
27 October 2026
Teams - 5:30 PM-7:00 PM

1. Call to Order (Jones)
2. Introductions
3. Minutes of the October 29, 2025 Executive Council meeting (Mitra) – click here
4. Meeting updates/announcements (Ryburn)
   - 115th Annual Technical Meeting – Oklahoma City University, Meinders School of Business
   - AM Oral presentations: 45 total (22 undergraduate, 8 graduate, 15 professional)
   - PM Poster presentations: 75 total (62 undergraduate, 5 graduate, 8 professional)
   - Luncheon Speaker: Dr. Bryan Dawkins, Associate Director for AI and Research Computing Initiatives at the Center for Biomedical Data Sciences, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, title of talk: "Mathing it Out: One Unexpected Point to the Next"
5. Resolution to thank the host institution (Ryburn) – attached
6. Financial Report (Ryburn) – attached
   - 2025 year-end
   - 2026 to present
7. Academy Reports, Proposals, Questions, and Discussion
   A. Fall Field Meeting (Jones)
   The Fall Field Meeting was held on October 3, 2026, at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in southwestern Oklahoma. More than 100 scientists, educators, students, and nature enthusiasts gathered on a beautiful fall day for field-based learning and exploration. Guided activities covered ornithology, botany, geology, wildlife management, archaeology, and ecology.

   B. Proceedings of the Oklahoma Academy of Science (Elshahed)
   POAS Volume 105 (2025)
   13 articles from 35 authors
   23 abstracts of the 2025 Technical Meeting

Editor Expense:	$3,000.00
Printing Expense:	$1,990.00
Mailing Expense:	$504.69
Total Expenses:	$5,494.69
Page Charges:	$6,615.00
Abstract Charges:	$361.75
Total Revenue:	$6,976.75
Net Profit:	$1,482.06

   C. Collegiate Academy Director (Peaden)
   Undergraduate Competition (to be judged)
   22 talks across 11 sections
   62 posters across 12 sections
   Graduate Competition (to be judged)
   8 talks across 6 sections
   5 posters across 4 sections

   D. Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science (King and Olson)

   E. Section Reports (Chair and/or Vice-Chair)
      A. Biological Science (McAnerney or Sanders)
         a. Botany
            i. 2 talks (1 undergraduate, 1 professional)
            ii. 3 posters (all undergraduate)
         b. Zoology
            i. 4 talks (2 undergraduate, 2 professional)

ii. 20 posters (18 undergraduate, 2 graduate)

B. Geology (Shelton or Khameiss)
   a. No presentations

C. Physical Sciences (Nichols)
   a. 5 talks (4 undergraduate, 1 professional)
   b. 5 posters (1 undergraduate, 4 professional)

D. Social Sciences (Mather)
   a. 5 talks (1 undergraduate, 1 graduate, 3 professional)
   b. 2 posters (1 undergraduate, 1 professional)

E. Science Communication and Education (Olson or Williams)
   a. No presentations

F. Geography (Ryburn)
   a. No presentations

G. Applied Ecology and Conservation (Rocha or Chavez-Ramirez)
   a. 6 talks (3 undergraduate, 2 graduate, 1 professional)
   b. 14 posters (13 undergraduate, 1 graduate)

H. Microbiology (Olson or Iyer)
   a. 6 talks (4 undergraduate, 1 graduate, 1 professional)
   b. 5 posters (all undergraduate)

I. Engineering Sciences (Alsbou or Abuabed)
   a. 2 talks (all undergraduate)
   b. 6 posters (5 undergraduate, 1 graduate)

J. Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Das or Mattison)
   a. 4 talks (2 undergraduate, 1 graduate, 1 professional)
   b. 11 posters (7 undergraduate, 1 graduate, 3 professional)

K. Microscopy (King)
   a. 1 poster (undergraduate)

L. Math, Computer Sci., & Statistics (Wells and Lastrina)
   a. 3 talks (1 undergraduate, 2 professional)
   b. 2 posters (all undergraduate)

M. Environmental Science (E. Howard and Crittell)
   a. 3 talks (1 undergraduate, 1 graduate, 1 professional)
   b. 1 poster (undergraduate)

N. Biomedical Sciences (A. Howard)
   a. 5 talks (1 undergraduate, 2 graduate, 2 professional)
   b. 5 posters (all undergraduate)

8. New Business

A. Approval to invest the Academy's endowment CDs with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation when they mature in May 2027 (Ryburn)

B. Awards for Student Presentations
   a. Last year we decided on the following:
      1st Place UG - $100 in poster & $100 in oral
      2nd Place UG - $50 in poster & $50 in oral
      1st Place Graduate - $100 in poster & $100 in oral
   b. Investment earnings should allow us to double, for a total distribution of $1000.00

C. Executive Director stipend increase and use of endowment earnings (Ryburn recused from discussion and vote; see attached proposal)

9. Future Meetings of the OAS
   A. Interest in having a Spring 2027 Laboratory Meeting
   B. 2027 Fall Field Meeting
      a. Wister State Park - fantastic water, forest ecology, botany (both plant and fungal), water ecology, geology, history/archeology in short driving distance.
      b. Others?
   C. 2027 Technical Meeting, Oklahoma Geological Survey
10. Announcements
   A. Still looking for a new Editor of POAS.
   B. Elect new sectional vice-chairs and report their names and contact information to Adam Ryburn
11. Adjournment