



American Chemical Society

Division of Biological Chemistry

Minutes of the Spring 2005 Business Meeting of the Division of Biological Chemistry - 12:30 pm, August 29, 2005 Butterfield 9, Washington DC

Attended by: Karen Allen, Vernon Anderson, Richard Armstrong, Marc DiStefano, Carol Fierke, John Gerlt, Jason Kahn, George Kenyon, Dewey McCafferty, Sue Miller, Dale Poulter, Vern Schramm, Peter Tipton,

(1) Spring Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the Spring meeting of the Executive Committee at the Philadelphia ACS meeting were read and approved.

(2) Report of the Executive Committee Presented by Richard Armstrong. The Chair reviewed the ACS Evaluation of the Annual Reports of the Division's Secretary and Treasurer. This report was largely positive. Criticism of the Division for its lack of a retention/recruitment plan was accompanied by a comment that we are the fastest growing Division in the ACS.

(3) Report of the Secretary Presented by John Richard: The Secretary encouraged the committee to continue to provide suggestions suitable nominations for the Divisions Awards. He noted that the age on the Lilly Award [under age 38] and the Pfizer Award [under age 40] was criticized by a member who pointed out that these were sometimes not met by otherwise qualified nominees who began their careers relatively late in life. The Chair pointed out that Division has tried unsuccessfully in recent years to have these age limits increased.

The secretary has the responsibility for appointing committees to choose the award recipients. He encouraged members of the Executive committee to provide suggestions of people to serve on these committees.

(4) Report of the Treasurer Presented by Peter Tipton: The financial condition of the Division is good.

(5) ACS Meetings Issues Presented by Karen Allen and Vernon Anderson

(a) Joint Symposium with the 2006 ASBMB 100th Anniversary meeting, San Francisco, CA. Ernie Rose has been contacted and has agreed to participate in the organization of a Nobel Laureate symposium in his honor at San Francisco meeting. He has expressed a preference for a single award lecturer. The sentiment of the Executive Committee was that a half-day symposia with several speakers would be more appropriate, and it was decided that a case in favor of the longer symposium should be presented to Dr. Rose.

The Spring meeting of the Executive Committee would normally be held during the Spring ACS meeting in Atlanta. It was decided to change this for next year and to meet during the 2006 ASBMB 100th Anniversary meeting in San Francisco.

(b) *Award Symposia for 2006 231th Annual ACS Meeting, Atlanta, GA and 232nd Meeting, San Francisco, CA.*

Peter Schultz has requested that the Division organize a symposium at the Atlanta meeting to honor his receipt of the 2006 Arthur C. Cope Award. Dale Poulter noted that a symposium associated with this award would be sponsored by the Organic Division for the Fall meeting. It was noted that the Division was not otherwise planning to organize a program for the Spring 2006 ACS meeting and that a single symposium to honor Peter Schultz was probably not practical.

(6) Funding Requests for Other Meetings. It was decided that beginning in 2006 the division would establish of budget of \$15,000/year to support symposia and meetings of interest to our members. The following were suggest as guidelines to be used in deciding the level of support for different meetings an symposia.

(1) A \$1500 limit for support of symposia at regions ACS meetings. These requests will be given a high priority, since support for these symposia represents an important component of our outreach program for our members. (2) A \$2000 limit for support of Gordon Conferences. In view of the limited funds available for conference support and the large number of Gordon Conferences attended by our members, it may become necessary to restrict the support made available for GRC. (3) A \$2000 limit for support of other conferences, with a limit of \$1500 for events that last a single day.

The following awards were approved during this meeting.

(a) \$1000 for the 2006 GRC on "*The Molecular Basis of Microbial One-Carbon Metabolism.*" [Steve Ragsdale]

(b) \$1500 for the Texas Enzymes Mechanisms Conference. [Chris Whitman]

(c) \$2000 for a Symposium on Bioorganic Reaction Mechanisms at the International Chemical Conference of Pacific Basin Societies.. [Jeff Keillor and John Richard]

(d) \$1000 for the 2006 GRC on "*Isotopes in Chemistry and Biology.*" [Charles Perrin]

(e) \$500 for the 2006 ACS Northwest Regional meeting.

(7) Nominations. Sue Miller agreed to be the Divisions nominee to serve on the U.S. National Committee for International Union for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB).

(8) Awards Status for the Division of Biological Chemistry. The status of a possible new award in Biological Chemistry was discussed briefly. The Chair encouraged the Executive Committee to work to obtain support for additional divisional awards.

(9) Newsletters and Mailings. The secretary reminded the committee that a decision was made during the Spring 2005 meeting to eliminate the hard copy mailing of the Winter newsletter. The Winter 2006 Newsletter will be posted on the Divisions Website, and a pdf-file for the Newsletter will be sent to our members as an EMAIL attachment.

(10) Update of Website. There was general consent within the Executive Committee that the Division should contract with Iserloh Design to update the Divisions Website. The secretary will provide content for this update to Uli Iserloh. Members of the committee expressed their appreciation to Darell Davis for his many years of service maintaining this website on a volunteer basis.

(11) Open Access for ACS Journals. The issue of open access for ACS journals was discussed. The Chair stated that while the ACS has taken some small steps to increase access to recently published articles, it has not yet addressed the issue of its Journals published prior to 1996,