MINUTES

Virginia Academy of Science, Executive Committee Meeting  
Sunday, November 18, 2007  
Science Museum of Virginia  
Presiding: Werner Wieland

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am

Approval of Minutes: There were no minutes to approve.

Local Arrangements Committee:

Dr. Whitney was appointed as the chair of the Local Arrangement Committee of The Annual Meetings of the VAS and VJAS to be held at Hampton University (HU) during May 20 – 23, 2008.  
It was decided to have same place for accommodations.  
Make arrangement for coffee and other shops to remain open during meeting days.  
Executive committee to visit HU on Dec. 18, 2007 and meet at 10:00 am.  
Direction to HU, meeting location and parking details to be e-mailed to members  
Issue of overhead and LCD projectors were discussed. HU may not have enough LCD projectors for junior academy presentations and schools be requested to bring their own LCD projectors, however, HU can meet the need of projectors for Senior academy presentations.

Officers Report:

President:

For some reason Fall UG Research Meeting was poorly attended.  
There were only 9 presenters but they were all good projects.  
More publicity about this meeting is needed  
Getting judges for Fall UG Research Meeting are an issue too.  
Responsibilities of President Elect is under review and identify what exactly President-elect is supposed to do

Vice President: Absent

Secretary: Nothing to report

Treasurer: Presented Statement of Cash- General Fund with notes  
(Appendix-A)*

Executive Officer: Nothing to report

VJAS Director:
Following handouts were distributed and discussed (Appendix-B):

VJAS meeting happenings
Flier, Report and Survey on the Science Career Symposium
Rubric for Judging VJAS written papers for judges
A VAST article (vol. 2, no. 1): Inquiry-based Science through Participation in the VJAS - by Susan Booth and Brendan Doyle

Reported that 5K race was a success. VJAS will receive $6,000 in Jan. 08 from the race proceeds. The funds will be moved around and be used for Virginia Environment Endowment. The next race will be held around same time on Sept. 20, 2008

Old Business:

Future Meetings:
2008 – Hampton University - Confirmed
2009 – VCU - On Track
2010 – JMU – Call Joe and confirm, and to get into some kind of agreement
2011 – Radford University – Figures and no. of rooms needed for the annual meeting to be sent to appropriate university official/ OR possibly host at JMU
2012 – CNU ????

New Business: Salary for Staff

A 3% raise, budgeted towards salary for staff (Executive Officer, VJAS Director and Administrative Assistant), is recommended for approval by the Council as budgeted.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am

* Handout passed out during the meeting
Call to Order: The Academy Council Meeting called to order at 10:22 AM

Approval of Minutes: A draft of minutes of 2007/2008 Council meeting held at JMU on Saturday May 26, 2007 was presented for approval. The minutes were approved with the following Corrections:

Annual Meeting Update: ‘Jerry Taylor thanked the Academy’ should read as ‘Jerry Taylor thanked Community College’...

Executive Officer: ‘Saturday November 18’ should read as ‘Sunday November 18’
Committee Reports – under Trust Committee: Take off (1) needs new members
Appendix 1: Take away ‘??’ before Thomas Haas
Appendix 1: Correction in Phone No. of Michael Renfroe, Treasurer (540) 568-6617(W)

Financial Report: Jerry presented the Income/Expense Comparison by Category 1-1-06 through 10-31-07(Appendix-A)* and following were noted:

Lower income from VJAS meeting ~ $30K vs. ~$23K, whereas for VAS the meeting income was higher from $3,761 to $5,247 (~ $1,500). Not much can be controlled regarding this.

Flora Project was paid as moved

Expenses AJAS was higher, need to figure out how to economize. Presently we send Two winners, Two sponsors and Two overseers

Research award under special research for VJAS ~$800 more than previous year

Jerry justified a question on why projected expenses are $14,500 more than previous year

Jerry mentioned about his move from 2nd floor to 3rd floor – with very short notice

Annual Meeting update: Council noted that decline in no. of participants at the annual meeting held at JMU, the reason could be date and Memorial Day weekend. (The numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of registered guests)

For VJAS the nos. are 2001 (1000) to 2005 (587) and 2007 even lower, and

for VAS the nos. are 2001 (342) to 2005 (222) to 2007 (193)

The council is financially okay to host the annual meeting.
For next annual meeting at HU, the days (Tue, Wed, and Thu) would be same as they were 5 years back when HU hosted the meeting last time. On the day of site-visit, Dec. 18, 07 more details including speaker will be available.

**Reports:** Following reports were presented

**Awards:** Carolyn Conway

-One nomination for fellow has been received

-Jerry requested information about Senior Student Presentation Award

-Section officers need to work on details

-Work on stream lining the process including whether or not the winners have to be academy members.

-Reporting on few section officers are not members, the matter was passed on to membership committee to handle.

**Constitution & By-laws – Jerry Taylor**

-A report of the committee submitted clarifying few constitution articles (Appendix B- Constitution & Bylaws Committee Report to Council)*.

**Environment: Michael Bass**

-The chair requested to represent the academy at the Virginia Science Forum at their next meeting. Energy issues in VA is the focus of the next meeting. Mike is representing the University of Mary Washington. Motion approved as moved.

**Fellows – Rae Carpenter**

-Dr. Kenneth R. Lawless donated about 3000 pictures. Dr. Lawless, who was an academy fellow died in August 2007. He was 85.

**Finance & Endowment – Art Burke**

-Burke was not informed about the meeting and could not attend the meeting. No report.

**Flora of Virginia – Marion Lobstein**

-Submitted a progress report on Flora of Virginia Project (Appendix C)*

-Reported that the manuscript will be finished by 2009.

Possible publication in 2011
Sample chapter is ready to review

One volume book

Using thesis papers

Funding is critical for next year because of 2009 deadline.

$6,000 is requested from Academy

Mentioned various levels one can support the project

Fund Raising – Jim O’Bien

Requested advise from the Council for exploring a plan for fund-raising campaign with 90th anniversary celebration.

Long Range Planning – Werner Wieland

Proposed dates for annual meetings at various location and sought input

Suggested to sign a lease with JMU for 2010, 2013 and 2016

Other possible venue suggested – Norfolk State University, George Mason University

Pursue with Radford and CNU for hosting the annual meeting

Membership – Richard Groover

Presented the report on Membership Growth Strategy Plan (Appendix D)*

The Council thanks to Rich for his effort. Current membership tally is 687.

Nominations –

Judy is not here

Ballot must go through the Executive Committee

Publication – Jim Martin

Journal is set up – 1 sent and 3 under revision

digitized all the journals and they will be placed online

Any news should go to Jim

Kudos to Jim for job well done
Reported that Rae is going through surgery, council wishes him speedy recovery

Research – Mohamed Ali - Absent and no report

Science Advisory – Alan Griffith - No report

Science Education – No report

Trust – Elsa Falls - Report submitted (Appendix E)* and highlights of committee report presented

Reported the annual meetings are not helpful in terms of earning

JMU and Va Tech are better; HU and VCU are making money

Revised “Chemistry Award guidelines” were approved

Establishment of “Botany Award” was put on hold until further clarification from would be $5,000 donor, whether the winner has to be a member of academy, and it is not explicit that the winner has to be either faculty or a student.

VJAS – Susan Booth

Regional director submitted a report on the Science Career Symposium (Appendix F)*

VRSN – David Hagen

Report presented (Appendix G)*

To open Website for students to track scientists

Publicized VSRN various ways

Expenses discussed

Request for funding $5k was explained and justified

New director of Science Museum needs to be updated on VAS presence, hence moved that Jim, President, Jerry and Susan see the director in this regard.

Kudos to David for excellent job of VSRN

Section Reports:

Aeronautical & Aerospace Sciences-No Report
Agricultural, Forestry, and Aquaculture-No Report
Archeology-No Report
Astronomy, Math, Physics, with Material Science-No Report
Biology with Microbiology-No Report
Biomedical & General Engineering -Expect to have good meeting
Botany:-Strong Section
Chemistry   -No Report
Computer Science-No Report
Education-No Report
Environmental Science-No Report
Geography with Geology -No Report
Medical Sciences-No Report
Molecular Biology-No Report
Natural History & Biodiversity-No Report
Psychology:-All is well
Statistics-No Report

Old Business

The finance and Endowment Committee went over the budget: Statement of Cash and General Fund (Appendix H)*:

Dues figures will go up

AAAS is budgeted for $5,000 but will not use all

Under Major Equipment $2,500 is allocated towards purchase a laptop and a copier for VJAS Director

Special meetings category is merged with Research awards

Flora project – budgeted for $6,000

VSRN - $5,000 this year and no funds were requested last year
AJAS - $9,000

A motion was moved to amend the proposed budget for the amount requested for VSRN and Flora project be cut in half (VSRN-$2,500 and Flora project $3,000) based on the trust committee recommendations. Motion carried.

Jim O’Brien will see that the Academy President, Jim Martin and Jerry get invitation to the political meetings

Jim O’Brien will participate in Industrial Award meeting

New Business

Council congratulated Jim O’Brien for winning 2007 Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence

Next Council meeting March 29, 2008

Names proposed for Research Committee – Joe D. Rudmin, Allison Baski, Lisa Alty, William Starnes

Thoughts over meeting in Richmond from 10 – 5 in September in place of overnight Chanco Retreat

Adjournment: The council adjourned at 2:30 PM.

* Handout passed out during the meeting