

MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, 5/26/06, 8 – 9:40 AM
Inn at Virginia Tech, Skelton Conference Center
Blacksburg VA

1. Minutes – Previous Meetings Agenda distributed but not minutes of prior meetings. Jerry Bass indicated detailed minutes should be circulated as official record and go into journal. VAS is required by law to archive minutes as a 501 c organization.

2. VJAS/VAS Report – Shelly Jobst

Not final numbers yet.

VAS: 70 early registrants
11 late registrants
20 late student registrants
>40 onsite registrants
65 tickets purchased prior to banquet. A few onsite.

VJAS: 643 student registrants (115 for Wed only)
530 stay on campus (90 were chaperones)
\$19,877.75 revenue collected to pay expenses for VJAS.
4-6 months to reconcile account.
No medical emergencies; no room damage reported; students behaved well overall.

Jerry Bass complimented VT group for being so efficient and responsive. VT President (Dr. Charles W. Steger) also showed up, which is not common at other universities.

John Hess provided a listing of the local arrangements team at Virginia Tech, sources of administrative and financial support and the colleges at VT providing scholarships.

3. Section Reports – Councilors/Representatives

Environmental Science – Michael Bass: small group but had 16-19 present.

Chemistry – Jerry Bass: half lecture by Jim McGrath of VT, very prominent polymer chemist. Good attendance. Recommend this approach to other sections.

Botany – Marion Lobstein: didn't have the numbers as in the past. Max of 35 attendees. Had a special presentation which was well attended. Jay Stipes of VT gave a campus tree walk which was wonderful.

Biology with Microbiology and Molecular Biology – Carolyn Conway: New people participated. Microbiologists that attended mentioned overlap with the annual ASM meeting. But unfortunately, VAS can't change their date.

Astronomy, Mathematics, Physics with Materials Science – Rae Carpenter: afternoon had 8 attendees. Elected a chair/vice chair from JMU students. These 2 also presented in the student competition and were the top 2. Hard to choose 1st place. Finally chose one to received \$100 1st place award, and attendees wanted to/did donate

cash to give \$50 to 2nd place.

Agriculture, Forestry and Aquaculture – David Crosby: 16 talks, 3 poster. 6-18 attendees.

Jerry Bass said good action at posters Thursday morning with students and faculty attending. We should look at ways to bring session rooms closer to poster area. David Crosby mentioned that it is necessary to get information to section secretaries earlier.

4. Business Report – Jerry Bass

Moved/seconded to reappoint Elsa Falls to the Trust Committee until 2009 (3 year appointment). Approved unanimously.

Combined financial report distributed. Finances are up to date except for one bill for ~\$3k outstanding for VJAS program book. Large transfer (\$46k) from Trust Fund explained: \$12k for Flora Fund

\$5k for non-endowed VJAS awards

\$3k for scholarships @ institutions

\$10k for Bethel scholarship

\$25k for general operating expenses; convention services entail a higher cost. At VCU last time, costs not as high because Drs. Trani and Huff paid for a lot.

Should form a committee to look at finances for the future.

Ready to mail informal audit, charitable organization report through Commonwealth of Virginia. Filling out forms again for tax exempt status.

New memberships trickling in.

Looking to shifting annual meeting one day later. May increase students and faculty to attend. Have to check with availability at JMU for 2007.

Rae Carpenter asked why Fund for the Future wasn't included in distributed financial report because without it, do not have an accurate trail of making or losing money. Jerry to include.

No directory done for 2005/2006 but one is needed. Moved/seconded to create a 2006/2007 director. Approved unanimously. Lots of information needs to be collected.

Wouldn't have all updates until August 2006. VJAS would be updated in July.

Moved/seconded for Bob Fisher to be reappointed to Research Committee. Approved unanimously.

Bob Fisher said some committees were active while others had members who don't even know they're on the committee and won't respond to Bob's emails.

Bob Fisher nominated VCU John Ryan for reelection to the Research Committee. In discussion, it was felt that the physical sciences might need better representation on the committee. R. Edward Barker (retired) from UVa Material Science was suggested to serve for 2006-2011 (5 year term). Each year has a new representative elected for the five member committee. Bob Fisher withdrew the nomination of John Ryan, and R. Edward Barker was approved.

5. CHANCO

Retreat: arrive for dinner on Fri, Sept 8. Ends Sunday, Sept 10, around 11am. No lunch so attendees can be on their way home.

Don Whitney to distribute an agenda for CHANCO soon. Contract issues. Jerry Bass suggested we discuss planning meetings further in advance. Should the cycle be 2 or

3 years for a university site? Technology issues: have computer/projection arranged ahead of time. JMU is not an issue. At VT, VJAS met in Squires Student Center which was not set up for projection like classrooms. Better to negotiate with university ahead of time.

6. Idea Future Plans

Don Whitney suggested Powerpoint presentations on website with pictures, to stir membership with everyone contributing from their section or area. Perhaps make connection with deans of schools and presidents to distribute VAS info to departments/faculty.

It is a problem for membership to maintain contact/updated addresses. Is a membership survey needed?

7. Miscellaneous

Trust Committee report distributed – Elsa Falls. Took over from Rae Carpenter who was chair for 16 years. Big shoes to fill. Great thanks to Rae for his many years of service, for continuity, and for continued help. Rosemary Barra joined the committee. They are meeting with Elsa's husband who is a financial advisor donating his time. Balance of 1,080,822; 1st quarter up 5.4% since 12/31/05.

Gerald Taylor moved to withdraw his name from consideration for VAS representative to the Board of SMV and nominated Jim O'Brien which must be approved by governor. Motioned/seconded and approved unanimously.

Rae Carpenter reported on SMV. With no state budget, state agencies have been preparing 2 budgets. Walter Witschey doing a great job to keep SMV solvent. He wants to get a history started on SMV; Charlotte Webb who prepared VAS history might be available to do SMV so looking for someone to fill this role.

Susan Booth distributed some issues to discuss at CHANCO with respect to VJAS (Appendix 5). T-shirt selling was profitable. Two past VJAS officers (historian and president, Tristen Hayes & Kelly O'Brient) were elected as seniors in high school; they could be a connection to undergrads when they go to college (VCU). Will start generating a list of names/colleges attending to get this connection going.

Marion Lobstein distributed Flora pages. VAS contributed much, and she was very thankful. The investment has been well spend in illustrations (total 231). UVa Press will be the publisher; contract in process. There are 3800 species; over 1400 will be illustrated and smaller ones plated. By 2011/2012, it will be done. Book and DVD to be available. Wanting to improve website.

8. Adjournment 9:40am EST