

**Minutes of the Virginia Academy of Science
Council meeting May 27, 2011
Science Museum of Virginia**

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 am

In attendance: Mike Renfroe; Elsa Falls; Richard Brant; James O'Brien; Deborah L. Neely-Fisher; George C. Grant; Art Conway; Carolyn Conway; David Hagen; Richard Groover; Darcy Mays; Arum Verma; Weiner Wieland; Jim Martin; Susan Booth; David Crosby

President Mike Renfroe presiding:

President Renfroe started the May Council meeting by introducing Dr. Rich Conti, the 3rd director of the Science Museum of Virginia. Dr. Conti gave a delightful presentation on the future activities and directions of the SMV. Dr. Conti encouraged everyone at the council meeting to see the exhibits and especially the upcoming one called "Great Balls of Fire"

Officers' reports:

President:

President Renfroe gave the past president's written report (Dr. Verma). VAS has a MOU with Norfolk State University for hosting the 2012 Annual meeting Virginia. Tech will be the Host University in 2013. Dr. O'Brien was re-nominated to the board of Trustees. The 2012 slate of officers were approved. An invitation to attend the VAS Annual meeting was sent to the Governors' office.

President Elect:

Ralph Eckerlin, There was an increase in the number of VAS presentations.

Vice President:

No report

Secretary:

No report

Treasurer:

Treasury funds ok

Executive Officer:

Art Conway gave an up to date report on the Sitz awards. \$780 was awarded in 2010 and \$250 in 2011.

Dr. James O'Brien recommended that Deborah L. Neely-Fisher take over the Newsletter. The motion was referred to the Publication Committee.

VJAS Director:

VJAS Report Susan Booth

The JVAS had over 700 in attendance at UR. There were a few glitches. Some rooms didn't have sheets or towels, but these problems were corrected quickly. VJAS needs more readers for papers. VJAS would like to setup onsite registration for guest and student observers.

Committee Reports:**Archives:**

No report

Awards:

No awards at this time

Constitution and Bylaws:

No report

Environment:

No Report

Finance and Endowment:

No report

Fundraising:

No report

Junior Academy of Science:

No report

Long Range Planning:

No report

Membership: Richard Brandt

Working on increasing new membership. Gave special Thanks to Carolyn Conway. Asked all members to assist in increasing membership of the Academy.

Trust:

Quarterly reports on the Endowment Funds showed a loss ~10,000. The Trust Committee wants to reallocate the sub fund. The Trust wants to diversify funds. In response the Trust Committee wants to reallocate trust funds, the president plans to constitute a Finance Planning Task Force for the Future (FPTFF).

Rosemary Barra to be reappointed to the Trust Committee.

Research:

Written report submitted.

Horsley Award: Five papers were submitted.

The Horsley Award paper for 2011:

Eswar Prasad R. Iyer, Srividya Chandramouli Iyer, Ramakrishna Meduri, dennis Wang, and Daniel N. Cox

Department of Molecular and Microbiology, Krasnow Institute for Advance Study, George Mason University, Manassas, VA.

Class-specific profiling and *in vivo* RNAi screen reveal complex transcriptional regulatory networks mediating dendritic architecture.

Andrews Grant: Two proposals were submitted and are being reviewed.

Small Project Grants: Six proposals were submitted and are out for review.

Flora:

“Flora of Virginia“ publication is slated for October 12, 2012.

Section Reports**Aeronautical & Aerospace Sciences:**

No report

Agriculture, Forestry and Aquaculture:

The section had a good turnout with lots of student presentations. Awarded 1st place and honorable mention awards.

Astronomy, Mathematics, and Physics with Materials Science:

No report

Biology with Microbiology:

No report

Biomedical and General Engineering:

No report

Botany:

Fifteen papers presented and 4 posters. Had 32 in attendance.

Chemistry:

Fourteen papers presented in this section with five posters. A special seminar was given.

Computer Science:

No report

Education:

Five papers given and one poster. Had 34 in attendance.

Environmental Science:

Twelve presentations with three no shows for this section.

Medical Sciences:

No Report

Natural History and Biodiversity:

Seventeen papers were given. Five posters presentations were set up. Twelve students gave presentations. Presentations came from six institutions. One first place award given with two honorable mentions.

Psychology:

Five paper presentations given as well as six posters. This section had a slight decline in number of presentations.

Statistics:

Ten presentations were given. Four were given by students. One first place award was given and one honorable mention. Section had up to 37 in attendance.

Structural Biology, Biochemistry and Biophysics:

Eighteen scheduled talks with several posters.

Old Business

VJAS is concerned about how the Trust for the Future is generating funds.

Dr. O'Brien reported on the Fellow Challenge is up by \$4000.

Dr. Brant reported on "The Thomas F. and Kate Miller Jeffress Memorial Trust"

New Business

Discussion was initiated concerning the forgiveness of the debt to VJAS. A motion was made to move this to the FPTF for further study and report to the Council.

Motions from the Trust Committee:

1. That the President appoints a Task Force to look at Academy financial

planning for the future.

2. **That Rosemary Barra be re-elected by council to the Trust Committee for a 3-year term.**

Both motions passed.

President Renfoe appointed Art Burke, Elsa Falls, Rosemary Barra, and Darcy Mays to the Financial Planning Task Force (FPTF)

From Susan Booth:

Motion: Give the Administrative Assistant \$1000 from the Dominion Funds for special expense as a bonus. Second and passed.

From Dr. O'Brien:

Motion: That the Council appoint Deborah Neely-Fisher as editor of the Virginia Scientists to begin September 1st, 2011. Second and passed.

President Renfoe directed that the record show that the Academy greatly appreciates and recognizes the years of service by Dr. James O'Brien as editor of the Virginia Scientist.

Motion for Adjournment was called and second. Council meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
David Crosby, Secretary, VAS