VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
Minutes of the Council Meeting
November 2, 2002
Science Museum of Virginia, Richmond

Attendance

Call to Order
President Ali Mohamed called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes
The minutes of the May 24, 2002 meeting were distributed via e-mail. It was agreed that approval of the minutes would be delayed pending distribution of printed documents at the next meeting.

Officer Reports
President Ali Mohamed: President Mohamed reported on the fall retreat at Chanco. One issue discussed at the retreat was the strength of each of the sections of VAS. Jeff Blank hosted a site visit to the University of Virginia, the venue for next spring’s meeting. Preliminary plans and a cost analysis were discussed with UVA Conference Services. Future sites for VAS meetings were discussed with reference to James Madison University’s offer to host the meeting every other year. Committee chairs for VAS have been appointed with the exception of Archives and Membership, which need chairs. Where appropriate, committee chairs should select additional members for their committees and report the names to President Mohamed. A printed copy of the VAS Directory is a goal espoused by a consensus of members who attended the Chanco retreat. Rae Carpenter was nominated by Jerry Taylor to be reappointed as a member of the Trust Committee. The nomination was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

President-elect Walter Witschey: The Commonwealth of Virginia continues to plan for Science Museums throughout the state.

Vice President Marion Lobstein: According to the reported submitted in absentia, the Flora of Virginia Symposium at the 2002 annual meeting was a great success; many questions. He also announced that members of the banquet on Thursday night and presented a 1928 Academy of Science members at the 1928 meeting at Wieland reported that 13 papers and 3 posters were

President Ali Mohamed reported that 13 papers and 3 posters were

reported that the Psychology session hosted 39 papers

Psychological Foundation will provide student awards.

CHEV Core Competencies was a great success; many

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academy of Science members at the 1928 meeting at

ranked Jim O’Brien and Marion Lobstein for arranging

HEV competencies and Virginia flora.

formation

in Biology at Longwood University
The motion was seconded. A question about raising dues for senior academy members, but it was dictated its application to VJAS members and not $5, and the amount in part d should be $4, and an amendment was passed by unanimous voice vote.

The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote about raising dues for senior academy members, but not $5, and the amount in part d should be $4.

The motion was seconded and approved with one "no" vote. This was designed to meet the motion was seconded and approved with one "no" vote.

The motion was seconded and approved with one "no" vote. The motion was seconded and approved with one "no" vote. It shall also be understood that VAS checks of $500 or more have two signatures. The motion was seconded. A question about raising dues for senior academy members, but not $5, and the amount in part d should be $4, and an amendment was passed by unanimous voice vote.

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The motion was seconded. A question about raising dues for senior academy members, but not $5, and the amount in part d should be $4, and an amendment was passed by unanimous voice vote.
The motion was seconded. A question about the legality of part $f$ was raised. Rosemary Barra proposed an amendment to the motion: that since the VIAS dues are being raised from the current $3 to $5, the amount transferred in part $a$ should read $3$, not $5$, and the amount in part $d$ should be $4$, and part $e$ should be $5, 6, 7$. The amendment was passed by unanimous voice vote. Jerry Taylor moved that parts $a-f$ be approved but part $f$ could be changed if the transfer is found not to be legal. The motion was seconded and approved with one "no" vote. Walter Witschey moved that the following Intent Statement presented in Rae Carpenter's report also be included in the motion.

The **Fund for the Future** was designed to meet the need for funding the annual salary, and any benefits subsequently authorized by Council, of the VIAS Director. This dictated its application to VIAS members and registrants. Subsequently, Council voted a salary to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer. Therefore, to the extent the Fund for the Future is capable of supporting more than the salary of the VIAS Director it shall not preclude use to fund part or all of the salary and benefits of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer. It shall also be understood that the Fund for the Future is an unrestricted fund in the sense that Council may change the above intent at a later date as financial exigencies may require.

The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote. There was some discussion about raising dues for senior academy members, but no action was taken.

**AAAS Representative Ertle Thompson:** No report. Art Burke reported that Ertle is stepping down from his post after 2003, and Jim O'Brien will go the 2004 meeting. Council recognized Ertle Thompson's contributions to AAAS.

**Science Museum of Virginia Rae Carpenter:** Carpenter deferred to Walter Witschey, who reported on the shared history of the Museum and the Academy, the progress in building science museums across Virginia, and funds proposed for museums in the upcoming General Obligation Bond issue.

**Director of the Virginia Junior Academy of Science Susan Booth:** A group of students from China will visit with representatives from the junior academy on December 2.

**VSRN Representative Jerry Taylor:** Funds for CIT were diminished by the recent state budget cuts; as a result, the speakers bureau has been eliminated and the Thursday evening programs for teachers were cancelled.

**Jeffress and Gwathmey Memorial Trust Allocation Trust:** No report.

**Old Business**

**Final Report for the annual meeting at Hampton, Don Whitney:** The meeting netted approximately $52,000 for the Academy. Suggestions for future meetings included continuing to have a large display map to help participants locate meeting places; having contracts focus on costs; being careful of groups with similar names; expecting late arrivals of students; having enough projectors. Council expressed its gratitude to Hampton University for hosting the meeting.

**October Research Awards meeting, Rosemary Barra:** Nineteen students made presentations at the fall conference. Each winner received $500, and runners-up, $100. Jerry Taylor indicated that the Academy should change the name of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer to Executive Director or Executive Officer. The matter was remanded to the Constitution and By-laws committee. For now, the title remains Executive Secretary-Treasurer.
Standing Committee Reports

VAS Site Selection Committee, Bob Willis: A list of academy needs will be sent to academic institutions considering hosting the annual meeting.

Trust Committee, Rae Carpenter: A copy of the awards budget was distributed. Due to current market forces, the reported actual value of the fund is less than the expected value, and last year the fund earned less than the amount awarded to winners. However, no action was recommended, as the market is likely to rise in the future.

New Business

Chanco Report, Art Burke: A copy of the report was conveyed via e-mail. Highlights were an expressed interest in science education (though this emphasis was later questioned via an e-mail from Harold Marshall), endorsed production of a printed version of the Directory and membership brochure, contact with other state academies, more electronic communication, establishment of Funds for the Future, and possibly introducing sections on nanotechnology and bioinformatics as well as eliminating or combining other sections. A special retreat was proposed for spring 2003.

Rosemary Barra made a motion that an ad hoc committee be formed to report at the spring meeting on a proposal for what goes into the directory and the cost of printing. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Sites for future annual meetings were discussed. There was a consensus that a spring retreat would best be held at UVA, the site of the May meeting. President Mohamed suggested that the two recent Nobel Prize winners from Virginia might speak at the UVA meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy H. Niehaus
Secretary