

Florida Academy of Sciences

Minutes of the Council Meeting



September 19, 2009

Orlando Science Center (OSC)

Orlando, Florida

List of Attendees: Richard Turner, Dave Karlen, Barry Wharton, Ramon Ruiz-Carus, Ed Haddad, Julie Regier, Jeremy Montague, Dan Odell, John Baker, Kathy Carvalho, Tom Arnold, Michael Reiter, Mark Wade, Jack Stout, Jacci White, Barbara Martin, Dean Martin, Tom Manning, Kelli Zargiel, Gil Ellis, Mark Chiappone, Eric Steimle, and Kym Rouse Campbell. Apologies for absences were received from Eric Perlman, John Trefry, Don Lovejoy, Sanjay Sesodia, and Leslie Sue Lieberman.

Richard Turner (President) gaveled the meeting to order.

Motion: that the Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on June 13, 2009, be approved as written. Motion carried.

Ed Haddad (Exec. Dir.) introduced the new director of the Orlando Science Center (OSC), JoAnn Newman, who then highlighted some of the OSC's programs and partnerships, making particular mention of its educational and "green" (sustainability) programs.

Richard Turner (President) distributed updated versions of the list of Council members ("Council for 2009-2010 as of Sept. 19, 2009"). This document identified vacancies in section chairs and committees. Council then acted on filling the vacant section chairs.

Motion: that Council confirm four new section chairs: Gilbert Queeley (ANS), Gilbert Ellis (AS), Eric Steimle (ECS), and Elizabeth Strom (URP). Motion carried.

Reports

President's Report. Key points covered by Richard in his report included the pros and cons of putting the journal online, determining the principal value of the Endowment, the need to develop a gift acceptance policy, and the status of the history of the Florida Academy of Sciences currently being prepared by Ernie Estevez (the Academy's 75th anniversary is to be a focus of the 2011 annual meeting), and necessary revisions underway in the Charter and Bylaws.

Executive Director's Report. Ed reviewed membership levels, discussed the status of the redesigned website, the progress on a National Science Foundation grant (less than encouraging), and the latest on the Academy's Science Outreach initiative. He also visited the Indian River State College in Ft. Pierce and came away quite impressed with

the facilities. Ed also intends on distributing a draft of the Academy's strategic plan to Council members shortly.

Treasurer's Report. Ramon reported that expenses outstripped income by just over \$7400 over the three month period between June and September of this year. He suggested a couple of potential cost saving measures, including encouraging the payment of registration by checks (to avoid the service charge being tacked on by credit card companies) and issuing the program issue on compact disc (as opposed to printing it). Dean Martin noted that the program issue is a citable document and therefore should be printed.

Endowment Trustees Report. The Endowment's annual growth increased by around \$4500 over the last 12-month period.

Finance Committee Report. The Finance Committee will be coalesced with the Executive Committee on selected issues (e.g., managing the Endowment to cover operational costs).

Development Committee Report. The Development Committee reported no action this quarter.

FJAS Report. The FJAS will need judges for the FJAS 2010 annual meeting. No Endowment support is anticipated this year.

Journal Editors Report. This was co-editors Dean and Barbara Martin's last report.

Journal Business Manager's Report. Although the journal page charges are still reasonable, the net cost of the journal is not being fully covered by student dues. Richard discussed the Policy on Charges for Color Art. The Charlotte Harbor's National Estuary Program's second special issue is coming out in October 2009. Richard recommended that we mail through our Melbourne bulk permit, continue to limit journal to 64 pages per issue unless it contains some articles significantly greater than 10 pages. Council's subsequent acceptance of the Journal Business Manager's report served as authorization to continue the page limitation policy.

Editor-Designate Report. Tom Manning (from Valdosta State University) serves as the Editor-Designate until Dec. 31, 2009. He greatly values the role of the Editorial Board. Ed Haddad noted that Editorial Board members should be encouraged to join the Academy if any are not currently members.

Awards Committee Report. No action was taken over the past quarter. Proposed higher-order criteria for use in selecting Academy-wide award winners will be presented at the January 2010 Council meeting.

Program Chair's Report. Jeremy Montague related that the online abstract submittal forms are up and running.

Membership Committee Report. David Karlen reported on status of efforts to increase membership. Ed Haddad reported that we have 410 members and subscribers. In addition, 120 copies of the journal are distributed to the University of Florida library. Barry Wharton offered to print additional copies of the revised color tri-fold membership

flyer. John Baker presented an artistically creative “e-blast” to drum up abstracts for the engineering section.

Local Arrangements Committee Report. Mark Wade put on a PowerPoint presentation providing a virtual tour of the Ft. Pierce’s Indian River State College campus and a status update on arrangements for the annual meeting (meeting rooms, registration site, banquet, business meeting, plenary address, lodging, and eateries). The meeting rooms will be in Buildings V and H. Building K is being set aside if needed. Building C will house registration and the poster sessions.

Charter and Bylaws Committee. No report.

NAAS/AAAS Liaison. No report.

History and Archives Committee. No report.

At the conclusion of each report, a motion was made to accept the report and in each case the motion carried.


Section Chair Workshop. Jeremy convened this workshop immediately following the lunch break. He noted that the chairing of sections has become increasingly informalized over recent years. He specifically saw the need for section chairs to more strictly adhere to section chair responsibilities, step up efforts to drum up abstracts, assist in editing abstract submittals, prepare presentation schedule (which generally should be set about six weeks prior to the annual meeting), assist the Program Chair in special sessions and symposia, appoint judges for student papers and posters, coordinate with the Awards Committee on timely completion and delivery of student paper evaluation forms, assist and advise on soliciting funds for student awards, preside at section business meetings, and prepare brief annual report of the section’s activities to the Academy President. Richard urged we set and stick to deadlines for abstract submittals. He suggested that late abstracts not be included in the program issue (or some similar measure) to induce timely submission of abstracts.

Old Business. There were no matters arising from the June 2009 Council meeting minutes.

New Business. Recognizing the need to increase the size of the Nominating Committee, Council appointed Dan Odell and Jack Stout to the Committee.

Next Council Meeting. The next Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 23, 2010 at Indian River State College in Ft. Pierce, the site of the 2010 annual meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,



Barry Wharton, Secretary