

## **Minutes of Florida Academy of Sciences Council – January 23, 2016**

USF St. Petersburg  
Davis Hall Room 130  
140 7<sup>th</sup> Ave S  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

### **Call to Order, Council Attendance and Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 am by Secretary Norine Noonan as president Jeremy Montague was still in transit (delayed due to high winds and bridge closure). Ms. Jenny Bouchard, FAS Office Manager, was recognized as a guest.

Secretary Noonan took Council members present on a tour of the campus facilities that will be used for the FAS Annual Meeting on March 18, 2016 (Council Meeting on March 17, 2016, Florida Junior Academy Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 19, 2016). The group toured the University Student Center (registration area and ballrooms), and the Science and Technology Building (rooms for sessions). Davis Hall Room 130 will be used for the Plenary and Business Meeting. Following the tour, the group returned to Davis Hall 130 where president Montague then reconvened the group.

The following Council members were in attendance (either in person or by phone): Jeremy Montague, Carmen Carpenter, David Karlen, Norine Noonan, Sumera Ackbarali, Richard Turner, Daren Bell, John Baker, Georgiu Bourov, Meghan Buckley, Iain Duffy, Kelli Hunsucker, Ricardo Jimenez, Anna Jimenez, David Karlen, Alvan Karlin, Jeremy Montague, Tom Arnold, Laura Mudd, Dan Odell.

The following Council members sent apologies for being absent: James Austin, Donald Lovejoy, Brian Pearson, John Trefry, Jack Stout, Sanjay Sesodia, Pat Zalo.

President Montague noted that the Minutes of the September 19, 2015 meeting were provided via email. The Minutes were approved.

### **Reports of Officers and Committees**

**President's Report:** Dr. Montague reported that Florida Polytechnic University has offered to host the Annual Meeting in 2017. He reported also that the cash position of the Academy was very strong aided by a large donation and that the Academy was starting the year solidly in the black. He also reported that he had developed a budget for the Academy. The report was accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was accepted

Endowment Committee: This report was submitted but will be returned to in New Business. However, Dr. Turner noted that there had not been a 3% internal growth in 2015, therefore, there would be no distribution of endowment proceeds in 2016. He offered four motions (see report for details). The motions were passed as proposed and the report was accepted.

Finance Committee: No report.

Development Committee: No Report.

Florida Junior Academy of Science: Although Pat Zalo was not present, she submitted her report and noted that judges were still needed for the FJAS meeting. She also noted that she was following the guidance set out last year for implementing the succession plan for her position. The report was accepted.

Editor's Report: The report was accepted.

Journal Business Manager: Dr. Turner noted that Allen Press has been a reliable partner and has rarely invoked the escalator clause (percent increase) in the printing contract. He also reported that there were still some outstanding accounts receivable, but he expected to resolve these issues shortly. He also reported that UF had renewed their contract. The report was accepted.

Charter and By-Laws Committee: No Report

Honors Committee: No report. However, Dr. Montague will take an action to contact Dr. Sesodia as there has been no report of the results of the 2016 medalist selection process. I

Nominating Committee: This committee is normally chaired by the FAS president-elect. However, this position is currently open. No report.

FAS Delegate to NAAS/AAAS: Dr. Noonan reported that she will attend the 2016 AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC and will serve as a poster judge for the NJAS poster session. The FAS dues for the NAAS membership are current. The report was accepted.

History and Archives Committee: No report

Membership Committee: No report.

Website: Dr. Odell reported that there has been a learning curve in using WordPress. Dr. Odell also asked for information on the Annual Meeting (registration, etc) so that it could be put on the website. Dr. Al Karlan agreed to offer some assistance with web design.

Awards Committee: Dr. Karlen reported that plans for the judging at the Annual Meeting were proceeding. He also reported that seven Hays travel award applications were received. However, given that there will be no distribution of endowment funds this year, Dr. Karlen proposed to award all seven students a reduced amount (\$50 plus registration fee waiver) since all are “local” (from Florida Poly) and either solicit donations to cover this total (\$350) or designate funds from the operating budget to cover this expense. The Council approved this request. The report was also accepted.

2016 Program Chairman: Dr. Hunsucker reported that abstracts and posters were down from 2015. She is on track to send the program to the printer on time. This is Dr. Hunsucker’s last year as program chairman and she informed the Council that a replacement will be needed. She also reported that communication with the web host was somewhat problematic even though this person has been paid through 2016. Dr. Turner volunteered to assist her, along with some assistance from Florida Tech IT staff, in identifying potential alternatives for web hosting. The report was accepted.

Local Arrangements Committee: Dr. Noonan conducted the tour. She also reported that she has solicited donations sufficient to pay the expenses of the meeting including the banquet. The report was accepted.

### **Section Chairs**

Biology- the chairman reported that Biology and Medical Science will conduct a combined session for the 2016 Annual Meeting.

### **Old Business**

Dr. Montague presented the draft budget for the Academy and also updated the Council on plans to hire an Executive Director. A brief discussion ensued focused on questions of supporting a contractor position (or positions) from the operating budget as opposed to the endowment proceeds.

### **New Business**

The next Council Meeting will be held at USF St. Petersburg on March 17, 2016 in advance of the Annual Meeting.