

Florida Academy of Sciences
Quarterly Council Meeting – Orlando Science Center
9-30-2006

1. **Present:** Joseph Albano, Patrick Draves, Cherie Geiger, Helena Giannini, Ed Haddad, Al Hall, Paul Higgs, David Karlen, Dan Odell, Dean Martin, Barbara Martin, Leslie Lieberman, Jeremy Montague (*minutes*), Julie Regier, Sanjay Sesodia, John Trefry, Richard Turner, Georgina Wharton, Barry Wharton, Pat Zalo.

Regrets: Elizabeth Hays, Don Lovejoy, Jacci White

2. **Introductions and welcome:** President Trefry called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** RE: 5. Old Business. Dean Martin asked to delete phrase “*and the Martins indicating this would be their last term.*” RE: 6. New Business a.) change “2006 Annual Meeting” to “2007 Annual Meeting.” Accepted as revised
4. **Reports:** President Trefry spoke about the importance of receiving reports in advance. He still wants people to give reports in the meeting, but advance reports should save time in the meeting.
 - a. **Executive Director:** Ed Haddad mentioned that OSC doesn’t want signs posted about FAS quarterly meetings. The front desk people are supposed to know where the meeting is. He circulated membership drive goals, which state that we need more members. Dean Martin read a list of past members, and noted that we’ve lost good members. Ed also mentioned his recent attendance at the “*Rising above the National Storm*” meeting (Washington, DC) He said the national concern is whether state academies can help NAS to reverse decline of US science. Report approved as distributed and given.
 - b. **Treasurer:** *See also note below in Journal Business Manager Report (d.):* President Trefry said that we’re momentarily in good shape, but we could be doing better. Report approved as distributed and given.
 - c. **Editors:** President Trefry expresses hopes that our inclusion in ISI (Current Contents) is advancing. Barbara Martin reported that issues are filling for 2007; the deadline for 2008 is approaching. Report approved as distributed and given.
 - d. **Journal Business Manager.** Richard Turner indicated receipt of a check for Supp #2 (\$11,000) covers the cost and is thus a “*free*” issue. He noted a new contract now with Allen Press good through 2009, with no increase for next 1.5 years. Allen Press has benefited from the relationship with FAS, and Richard is pleased with contract. As regard pdf articles, question was raised: should we place older articles online? FAS needs some control over authors’ placing their own old articles as **PDFs** online. Copyright issue is of concern. Dan Odell asked about journal renewals by mail or by email; he prefers renewal by emails. Report approved as distributed and given.
 - e. **Program Chair:** Jeremy Montague said the new, online abstract submission website at Barry University has been completed. He also said Call for Abstracts document nearly completed, and will be ready by 3-4 October for posting. Jeremy also discussed several

Florida Academy of Sciences
Quarterly Council Meeting – Orlando Science Center
9-30-2006

strategies for deadline decisions in December 2006. President Trefry said we should push/encourage posters. Ed Haddad discussed the recent offer by OCS to exhibit a select poster display after the FAS 2007 meeting. David Karlen has a new co-chair for special session on Tampa Bay Ecology; he will forward the name and contact information to Jeremy. Jeremy introduced Joe Albano as new section chair for AGR. He introduced Paul Higgs as new section chair for ENV. Paul Higgs raised the question on whether ENV (the traditional name) should be changed to CHE. Leslie Lieberman discussed John Schultz as regards his decision to stay on as section chair of ANT; they are optimistic about the future for ANT, as UCF is a good source for graduate anthropology students. Jeremy introduced Patrick Draves as the new section chair for SOC; Patrick commented on his interests also in working with St. Leo's IT staff in FAS web development. Al Hall announced that he is planning a PSS engineering mini symposium on groundwater for 2007. Report approved as given.

- f. **FJAS:** Pat Zalo mentioned that four FJAS students will go to the NAS competition; she also requested FAS judges for 2007 State Science Fair, an all-day event on 14 April in Ft. Myers. Report approved as distributed and given.
- g. **Awards:** Sanjay Sesodia discussed strategies for section chairs to communicate with the Awards Chair during the meeting. Teleconferencing was suggested, but Sanjay noted it is still a problem for getting section chairs' reports to the winners in a timely fashion. Report approved as given.
- h. **Charter & By-Laws:** Leslie Lieberman discussed efforts to develop a FAS strategic plan. Report approved as given.
- i. **Endowment.** Dean Martin commented that Don Lovejoy has been doing a great job. Report approved as distributed and given.
- j. **Medalist:** Cherie Geiger mentioned that the three past-presidents sit on committee according to the bylaws. Question was raised: do we need another member for selection? Dean Martin said that more members would be good. Dr. Martin moved that the Medalist Selection committee be expanded to include a past awardee who has not held office of president, and that this person should be appointed by current president. This motion was approved. Report approved as given.
- k. **Nominating committee:** Barry Wharton indicated that Sanjay Sesodia is not running for re-election as Councilor-at-Large in 2007, and he needs to be replaced by election at the Annual Meeting. The FAS Treasurer may be stepping 2008. There were questions raised concerning terms lately for our Councilors-at-large (*e.g.*, the difference between 1-year and 2-year terms. (Secretary Elizabeth Hays has included this information in the minutes and past reports). President Trefry said we need a President-Elect before next quarterly meeting. Report approved as distributed and given.
- l. **President:** President Trefry reported that the joint FAS-Georgia Academy of Sciences meeting (21-22 March 2008) in Jacksonville is going forward. It is planned now as a

Florida Academy of Sciences
Quarterly Council Meeting – Orlando Science Center
9-30-2006

Friday/Saturday meeting. The Georgia Junior Academy of Sciences is apparently less organized than FJAS, and no immediate plans for GJAS are in place. The FAS Finance committee met in July 2006; they outlined a strategy attracting significant sponsorship, and they identified several cost-cutting measures. President Trefry noted the decision for the journal to publish the 2006 Indian River Lagoon Symposium issue as a regular issue to save money. Development of a marketing brochure and a search for donors are underway. Ed Haddad asked if anyone knew high-ranking corporate executive. Report approved as distributed and given.

- m. **FAS Delegate to AAAS**; Leslie Lieberman again noted that four students from FJAS will be going to the AAAS/NAS. Report approved as distributed and given.

- 5. **Old Business**: the committee for future editor determination reported that the present editors (Dr. and Mrs. Martin) will serve through 2007. The question was raised: does this committee have anything to do? The Martins will think about the proposal to bring in an associate editor. Leslie Lieberman asked: do we develop an editorial board to advise editors? President Trefry noted that an editorial board could increase submissions. A favorable ISI decision could improve the impact factor. Barbara Martin noted that way back in time, the FAS executive secretary used to function as “*associate editor*.” Dean Martin said that close spatial proximity is no longer important (*e.g.*, emails and other electronic tools). President Trefry said the committee will prepare an advertisement and send out an ad for associate editor.

- 6. **New Business**:
 - a. The 2007 FAS meeting was discussed. Kathy Carvahlo-Knighton is the local arrangements chair. Call for abstracts will go out this week. There were no plans discussed concerning the Plenary Session. David Karlen recommended separate award(s) for students in the special Tampa Bay Ecology session.
 - b. The FAS membership drive was discussed. Ed Haddad announced an award of steak-knives to Barry Wharton for getting most new members. We should start our membership drive now. His goal is to get up to 1,000 members within five years (currently we are at nearly 600 members). Keeping current members is a big challenge. We will have new opportunities to recruit at USF-STP in March 2007.
 - c. The strategic plan was discussed. Ed Haddad noted that non-profits such as FAS need a plan. A draft is now underway for next five years. Patrick Draves indicated that the St. Leo people might be interested in designing a new FAS website. Leslie Lieberman asked: are we going after external grants/funds? Corporate? Government? As far as strategic goals are concerned, our annual meeting and journal are in good shape; as for other areas (public education, public science literacy), we’re not in such good shape. Motion to approve plan was approved/accepted.
 - d. The Finance Committee was discussed. Ed Haddad mentioned funding issues and the need to search for grants. He mentioned also that Don Lovejoy found a grant-writer last year. The Finance Committee has developed a general grant form for “*Improving the State of*

Florida Academy of Sciences
Quarterly Council Meeting – Orlando Science Center
9-30-2006

Science in Florida” for public/civic activities. The grant writer is pleased with the form, but a FAS operating funds grant is not yet in preparation.

- e. The FAS information packet was discussed. Ed Haddad is preparing this package. FIT will assemble and print the package, using the FIT model for Marine & Environmental Science as example. A suggestion was made to produce a PowerPoint slide presentation for distribution on CD’s. Barry Wharton suggested that we use endowment funds to “underwrite” PBS programming, perhaps a \$500 or \$1,000 donation. The Council thinks it’s a good idea, and Barry agreed to pursue the idea. A motion to use up to \$5,000 from the endowment to underwrite PBS science programming was made, but the by-laws indicate we must wait until June for this motion; we will discuss this motion again in March 2007. We should also wait until we’ve decided the \$10,000 endowment expense for the FAS office. Leslie Lieberman also suggested that we explore a PSA (public service announcement) approach.

7. **Next Quarterly Council Meeting:** tentative date...13 January 2007, at USF-STP.

8. **Adjournment:** 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Jeremy Montague (Acting Secretary)