

Florida Academy of Sciences – Minutes of the 2017 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Meeting  
Florida Polytechnic University, Lakeland, FL (minutes recorded by Jeremy Montague)  
Saturday (11:50 am to 2:30 pm ... 11:00-11:50 am taken for Building tour), 7 January 2017

1. **Call to Order**: Jeremy Montague
2. **Apologies for Absences**: James Austin, Norine Noonan
3. **Approval of Minutes from 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting** (23 September 2016): Approved as amended (having noted the approval by Council vote of the bylaws amendment that John Trefry had prepared).
4. **Present In Person**: Tom Arnold, John Baker, Darin Bell, Georgui Bourov, Iain Duffy, Kelli Hunsucker, Leya Joykutty, David Karlen, Al Karlin, Carrie LeGarde, Jeremy Montague, Laura Mudd, Rick Jimenez, Sanjay Sesodia, Richard Smith, Sesha Srinivasan, Jack Stout, Richard Turner, (Guests: Jenny Bouchard, FAS Office Manager, and Dr. Kathryn Miller, Florida Polytech, and Jane Lund); **Present by Phone**: Sumera Ackbarali, Carmen Carpenter, Katie Rubin, and Alysia Winburn
5. Reports of Officers, and Chairs of Outstanding Committees:
  - a. President – Jeremy Montague
    - i. The FAS Office is officially housed now in Melbourne; I commend Drs. Richard Turner and John Trefry for their professional advice and actions taken in this transition, and I especially commend FAS Office Manager Ms. Jenny Bouchard for keeping the operations in order.
    - ii. FAS Financial Status: Our current status is good; we had a modest surplus of approximately \$3,800 in our 31 December 2016 cash-flow summary.
    - iii. FAS Treasurer’s Position: The three-year term for our current Treasurer (Ms. Sumera Ackbarali) will end in March 2017. I have a replacement candidate in mind, and I will nominate this person at the FAS 2017 annual meeting in March.
    - iv. The FAS Endowment: Our endowment grew 4.8% in 2016 and is currently valued at \$694,473 (as of 31 December 2016).
    - v. New Director for FJAS: Ms. Leya Joykutty (American Heritage High School in Davie/Ft. Lauderdale) has assumed the Director’s position. I commend Pat Zalo for her many years of service to the Academy.
    - vi. FAS 2017: Our 1st Quarterly Meeting will take place on the Florida Polytechnic campus (See “Local Arrangements” report on p. 3).
    - vii. FAS 2018: Barry University will be the official host for FAS 2018; I have volunteered to serve as Local Arrangements Chair.
    - viii. Composition of Council 2017: Council reviewed the current composition.
    - ix. Council approved the President’s Report.
  - b. FAS-FIT Liaison (see also “New Business”) – Richard Turner
    - i. Richard noted that this is a new academy position, and that he would present a brief report later during the meeting.
  - c. Treasurer – Sumera Ackbarali
    - i. Sumera noted our current assets are valued at an amount of \$725,995, with our 2016 income estimated as approximately \$44,587 (Richard Turner noted that an additional amount of \$19,000 from the City of Punta Gorda for publication of the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program Symposium should be added in). Sumera agreed to amend her report on this matter.
    - ii. Pending revision, Council approved the Treasurer’s report.

- d. Endowment Committee – Jeremy Montague
  - i. Jeremy noted that he met with the FAS Wells Fargo Endowment account manager (Jerry Holcomb). The WF account containing the Hays Travel Fund was valued on 31 December 2016 at approximately \$13,000 (exact amounts and additional details were provided in Jeremy’s written quarterly report).
  - ii. At this time, Richard Turner made four motions:
    - 1. Motion 1: Declare the value of \$556,596 for the principal of the undesignated Endowment funds;
    - 2. Motion 2: Declare the value of \$12,310 for the principal of the Hays Travel Fund;
    - 3. Motion 3: Authorize the withdrawal of up to 4% of the undesignated funds in support of FAS 2017 operations (Jeremy Montague agreed to meet again with Jerry Holcomb at WF to determine the cash value associated with the Hays Travel Fund so that a good 3-year average could be computed to which the 4% would be applied for the annual distribution);
    - 4. And Motion 4: Authorize a withdrawal of an amount from the Hays Travel Fund sufficient to cover the student travel awards (estimated at this time to be approximately \$600).
    - 5. Council agreed to all four motions.
  - iii. Council approved the Endowment Committee’s report.
- e. Finance Committee – Jeremy Montague, no report
- f. Development Committee – TBD, no report
- g. FJAS – Leya Joykutty
  - i. Leya introduced herself to Council; she reported that Pat Zalo’s check for the FJAS funds as of September 2016 had been deposited in Leya’s newly created corporate account at SunTrust Bank in Sunrise.
  - ii. FJAS will send one student to the National AJAS meeting in February 2017; council approved a donation of \$1,000 to FJAS from the Hays Travel Fund in support of this.
  - iii. Leya announced a deadline of 31 January 2017 for submission of student papers to FJAS.
  - iv. Leya asked for volunteers from Council to read student papers ahead of the FJAS meeting on 11 March.
  - v. Leya proposed development of a FJAS poster session for FJAS 2018 (Council suggested that a poster session at FJAS 2017 was not feasible at this point in time); Al Karlin offered to send her a poster template.
  - vi. Council approved the FJAS report.
- h. Journal Editor – Richard Turner for James Austin
  - i. Richard read Dr. Austin’s report to Council. Our 1<sup>st</sup> issue for 2017 will contain four papers (about 50 pages of content).
  - ii. Richard urged Council members to write (or to recommend authors) new manuscripts for the journal. He reminded us that FAS members receive 10 free pages of content for accepted manuscripts.
  - iii. Council approved the Editor’s report.

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- i. Journal Business Manager – Richard Turner
  - i. Richard noted that even though he has disposed of 4,700 hard copies with Council approval, our physical storage space for back issues is limited; he will keep 20 hard copies of each issue.
  - ii. Richard suggested that we might use the FAS 2017 Registration Table to have a “Take a Free Back Issue” offer to members. (And we might do the same for our current surplus of FAS bumper stickers.)
  - iii. Council approved the Business Manager’s report.
- j. Charter & Bylaws Committee – John Trefry, no report
- k. Honors Committee – Sanjay Sesodia
  - i. Sanjay noted that we have candidates nominated for the FAS 2017 Medalist.
  - ii. Sanjay also suggested that we update our current contact listing of Colleges and Universities to use in our nominations for the FAS 2018 Medalist.
  - iii. Council approved the Honor’s Committee report.
- l. Nominating Committee – Jeremy Montague, no report
- m. FAS delegate to NAAS/AAAS – Norine Noonan, no report
- n. History & Archives Committee – John Baker, no report
- o. Membership Committee – Jeremy Montague, no report
- p. Website – Dan Odell – no report
- q. Awards Committee – Kelli Hunsucker
  - i. Kelli noted that at this time, there are no applicants for the 2017 Hays Student Travel Award. Kelli agreed to extend the deadline and re-advertise the award description.
  - ii. Council approved the Awards Committee report.
- r. Program Committee – David Karlen
  - i. David noted there were 130 student/author submissions.
  - ii. At this time we have accepted 75 oral and 91 poster presentations.
  - iii. Council members were asked to volunteer as poster judges on Friday, 10 March.
  - iv. Kathryn Miller (Florida Polytechnic) reminded David that she has several Florida Polytechnic faculty who could serve as judges; David agreed to contact her regarding this.
  - v. Council approved the Program Committee’s report.
- s. Local Arrangements 2017 – Sessa Srinivasan & Kathryn Miller
  - i. Sessa opened our meeting this morning with a tour of the facilities; all FAS 2017 events will be housed in one building on campus.
  - ii. Sessa and Kathryn discussed the matters of Wi-Fi access and IT log-in for session computers; volunteer Florida Polytech undergrad students will be in the session rooms on Friday and Saturday.
  - iii. There was some discussion of poster space availability; at this time we are undecided on the exact location for the posters, but several suitable locations are available.
  - iv. Council approved the Local Arrangements Chair report.
- t. Section Chairs – no reports

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- u. Old Business:
  - i. Council discussed the bylaws amendment concerning the merging of the URB & GHS Sections into the new GEO section.
  - ii. Council discussion on retention/removal of Development Committee: It was the consensus agreement that we keep this committee, on the principle that it is easier to re-fill positions on a vacant committee still on the books than to re-create a committee that had been removed from the Charter & Bylaws.
- 6. New Business:
  - a. FAS 2017 Annual Business Meeting: Carmen Carpenter volunteered to collect and print the FAS 2016 Annual Reports for the Annual Business Meeting (4:30 pm, Friday, 10 March).
  - b. Next meeting: 9 March 2017 (7:00 pm), Florida Polytechnic University.
- 7. Meeting Adjourned (2:30 pm).

Jeremy Montague  6 March 2017