

ACA Members' Business Meeting
23 July 2013
Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu, HI

Call to order

Meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Stevens at 5:10 PM, with approximately 60 members in attendance. Stevens also received 75 proxies in advance of the meeting, so the requirement was met that at least 100 members or their proxies be present.

Agenda Item 1. Review of the current agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Agenda Item 2. Review of minutes from last years' meeting

MOTION	Move to accept the minutes of last year's meeting. Flippen-Anderson/Audette, unanimous.
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Agenda Item 3. President's report

A full copy of the text of the President's report can be found in the current edition of Reflexions. Stevens mentions a few highlights:

- John Helliwell is the winner of this year's Patterson Award.
- Six new Fellows will be announced at the banquet.
- The ACA's financial situation is good. Furthermore, at this point it appears that the Honolulu meeting has enough registrants for the association to break even on meeting costs.

Agenda Item 4. Vice-President's report

Vice President Martha Teeter announces the formation of the nominating committee for the Etter Award: E. Skordalakes (2012 winner), Y. Sevryugina (YSSIG Chair), and E. Ortlund (2013 winner). She notes that she is currently assembling the award committees for the Warren and Buerger awards. She announces that the program chair for the 2015 annual meeting will be Kraig Wheeler; the meeting will be held at an East Coast site TBD.

Agenda Item 5. Treasurer's report

Treasurer James Kaduk reports that the ACA has been running surpluses over the past few years, with the deliberate aim of increasing operating reserves. A standard rule of non-profit management is to have about one year's income in reserve; while our strategy has been successful in moving the organization toward this goal, it has not yet been achieved.

Expenses for 2013 about on budget, but are a bit above past averages (largely due to the expensive Hawaii meeting site). Income is currently above budget, but this may be an artifact of early registration for meeting. Note that dues income is down ~ 4% in 2013 relative to last year, continuing a trend that has been observed over several years now.

Agenda Item 6. International Year of Crystallography.

Members of the IYCr14 Task Force are introduced to those assembled, and the Task Force's vision statement is presented. Their vision for 2014 is as follows:

- Public gains lasting, increased awareness & appreciation of
- Nobel prizes for crystallography
- Major contributions to science from crystallography as they effect daily life
- Symmetry, crystals, crystal growing, diffraction
- Elementary, secondary & university are excited about and can learn about crystallography
- Crystallography units are part of the K-12 science curriculum
- We attract & retain more young scientists in crystallography
- Funding for crystallography/science increases
- Latin American Crystallography is strongly supported
- There is a lasting legacy of appreciation of science

Their tasks include the following:

- Empower school teachers & students with Next Generation Science units on crystallography
- Sponsor crystal growing and video contests for students
- Create a lasting multi-faced website for the public, & for very young, early career and mature scientists
- Share event set-up, provide materials, and match crystallographers with similar interests (politics, community cafes, museums, libraries, etc.)
- Crystallography ambassadors: Teach ourselves to answer: What is Crystallography? To the Public

Agenda Item 7. Old business

Journal update. Judy Flippen-Anderson presented an update on the ACA Journal, *Structural Dynamics*. Work is progressing well toward the first issue. The website can be found at <http://sd.aip.org>. The journal will be open-access and online-only; publication costs are envisioned to be on the order of \$2200/paper for non-ACA members, and ca. \$1500/paper for members.

Michael James mentions that the CIHR will not generally fund publication costs, and evinces concern about how members might be able to pay for manuscript costs. Past President George Phillips (who is an associate editor of the new journal) agrees that this concern is valid, but notes that because of government-mandated open access requirements, charges of some sort will have to be paid to publish in most any journal. The cost of publishing in *Structural Dynamics* is therefore not expected to be vastly more than the average cost of publishing a paper (and less than many).

Strategic planning update. Stevens reports that the members of the strategic planning committee are Stevens, Phillips, Teeter, CEO Bill Duax, CFO SN Rao, Judy Flippen-Anderson, and Director of Administrative Services Marcia Colquhoun. The group's initial meeting was with the AIP, which recently conducted a strategic planning initiative of its own. The realization emerged among the ACA officers that the ACA should be more than a group with an annual meeting, but rather a group that supports scientists doing structural work. To focus the association's efforts, the membership will need to develop a mission statement (the ACA does not have an up-to-date mission statement at present). Stevens notes that the introduction of the new journal is a step in the right direction; we also need to

improve marketing (of the association and of our science), increase efficiency, plan and updated organizational structure, review and update the bylaws, engage more young members, and develop a succession plan to ensure that the ACA will be sustainable in the long term. An important part of work going forward should be to take the lead in crystallographic education.

By-law evolution and improvement. Phillips notes that the by-laws are outdated, and that in many respects the ACA's practice has drifted away from what is written in the by-laws. In order to make the ACA more modern and professional, Council is starting a process of updating them. This is anticipated to be an iterative process that will take multiple years. The first set of proposed changes to the by-laws have been distributed.

M. James asks why the national divisions have been divided into Latin America, USA, and Canada. Phillips explains that this is a product of our on-going efforts to increase collaboration and interaction with Latin American crystallographers.

R. van Dreele points out a statement in the by-laws relating to dues for retired members, which is in conflict with other parts of the document; this is noted and will be targeted for correction with the next crop of revisions.

Ballots are distributed and a vote is taken to determine on the proposed changes to the by-laws.

59 votes are recorded in favor of the proposed changes, and 1 vote against. Together with the 82 proxies given to President Stevens, the votes in favor are sufficient to pass this measure.

Agenda Item 9. New business

Gerd Rosenbaum notes that many posters do not contain any crystallographic data, and wonders if we can make a requirement that posters must contain such data. Michael James notes that a table with full data can take a huge amount of space. Eddie Snell disagrees with Rosenbaum's proposal; he notes that we have a role to educate people, and one way to do so is to point out the need for including supporting data when viewing posters. Stevens notes the various ideas presented, and promises to look into this.

Duax notes that many posters for which abstracts have been submitted were not actually presented; he is checking registration records to see if any of these people actually showed up at the meeting, but failed to present posters. He is concerned that people can submit an abstract and subsequently refer to it as a publication, without actually presenting a poster. Peter Mueller suggests that because we no longer provide a printed abstract book, we can simply remove abstracts of no-show posters from the record. Secretary Pat Loll asks if abstracts are posted in perpetuity—i.e., can any poster author point to a verifiable link for their abstract? No one present is certain.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.