

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, Montana Academy of Sciences, April 15, 2011
Meeting to order 4:10 pm.

Present: Jim Barron, Dan Gretsche, Tom Lewis, Nate Bickford, George McRae, Rick Douglass, Jim Berardinelli, Jim Harkins, Phil Jensen, Laurie Henneman.

1. Review of October 2010 Minutes: Accepted

2. Budget Review

a. Tom **Lewis** report: Checking account is covered for anticipated expenses in the next year, so Barron shouldn't be having to write money market checks.

b. Trust status: Trust performed very well - grew by \$3000, including \$11,000 in expenditures. Meeting registrations will more than cover meeting this weekend. ACS will help with expenses this time too. Probably need \$3000 from trust this year, averaging to \$7000 per year last two years. Need to decide if this is sustainable, we're OK for now.

Any other ideas for raising revenue? More sponsorships would be good, but we at least need to collect on those that were offered. As the meeting grows, more sponsorships may be in the offing.

3. Annual Meeting

a. ACS showing up only for Saturday, so keynote speaker was moved to Saturday morning - keynote talk is basically ACS. ACS splits cost for breakfast and lunch (whatever does not end up sponsored).

b: Meal sponsorship

1. Friday dinner - Rich Bridges
2. Friday refreshments - Frank Gilmore
3. Saturday breakfast - Doug Coe
4. Saturday lunch - Tasneem Khaleel (who doesn't know it yet)

c. Mershon Award - Nick Natale

d. Science Mentor of the Year - Nate Bickford

e. Committees to judge for presentation prizes - **Bickford, Gretsche** and **McRae** for posters, **Lewis** and **Berardinelli** for talks - **including Best Scientist Award for student presentation (which we forgot last year) Note: Best Scientist will not also win a best presentation award, so we have more winners.

f. Junior Academy - **Harkins** read some thank you letters - last year, out of top two winners one elected to receive \$400 scholarships, the other used the \$800 travel money to go to the AAAS meeting in Washington DC. Letters will be posted on the MAS website.

Thirteen Junior Academy papers will be presented this year: three in main session, ten in junior breakout session.

Still trying to recruit students statewide, but still have only gotten Missoula students.

We think it would help to redo the call-for-papers form. Another problem is that spring is so packed with other events, that even those students who want to come end up dropping out a lot.

Harkins will give out awards for Jr. Academy at lunchtime tomorrow.

4. Board membership and officers

a. Officers and terms

1. New officers? Encourage others to get involved! Give them Barron contact info, we can always use more people even though current group is relatively stable

2. **Keith Parker** resigned because he feels he can't commit the time anymore. We consider him (and Tasmeem) as board members "emeritus."

5. Mini-Grants - **Bickford** and **Berardinelli** committee this year

14 applications - some "growing pains" in how the reviewers scored proposals - varied probably based on how much reviewers had worked with undergrads. We plan to give six awards this year: Hillyer, Lovec, Hutson, Reichhardt, Scott, Kinkade.

Also need to make sure we do next year:

1. Make sure proposals are labelled as grad vs. undergrad - put box on cover sheet, make sure title space labelled.

2. Make sure reviewers provide a *written* review.

3. Need proposals earlier - plan to get announcement out right after October meeting, and make deadline December 1? Decide in fall.

4. How to deal with heavy rewriting by advisor?

6. Other business

a. Web site:

Henneman will work on adding full abstract submission and registration payment via paypal for next year. We will continue to build the site so that it becomes a resource for Montana scientists.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Henneman

