

June 12, 2015  
North Central APS Division Business Meeting  
East Lansing, MI

In attendance: Martin Chilvers, Andrew Friskop, Amanda Gevens, Tamra Jackson-Ziems, Doug Jardine, Dean Malvick, Febina Mathew, Sally Miller, Daren Mueller, Angela Orshinsky, George Sundin, Alison Robertson, and Kiersten Wise.

The 2015 North Central Division of APS business meeting was called to order by President George Sundin (Michigan State Univ.) at 8:30 AM.

George Sundin presented Amanda Gevens (Univ. Wisconsin) with the Early Career Award.

The minutes of the 2014 North Central Division APS business meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and read by the attendees. Marty Chilvers (Michigan State Univ.) motioned to accept the minutes, and Amanda Gevens seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes was voted upon and passed unanimously.

The treasurer's report was distributed and read by the attendees. Doug Jardine (Kansas State Univ.) motioned to accept the treasurer's report, and Daren Mueller (Iowa State Univ.) seconded the motion. The motion to accept the treasurer's report was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Amanda Gevens provided the divisional forum representative report. The majority of the report focused on discussing increasing registration costs to pay for Division meeting costs. Policy changes may occur where the national organization will not support meetings that do not break even or operate at a loss for meeting costs. Amanda reported that there is also disparity in the amount of money dedicated to awards among divisions, but the amount and number of awards will be determined by the membership of each Division. Amanda also reported the need to summarize secondary and undergraduate educational efforts to identify where programs and funding are needed. There was discussion regarding developing undergraduate activities for each division meeting. Amanda reported on the Divisional Forum Symposia, which occurs at the annual APS meeting. These symposia feature graduate student competition winners from all of the divisions. This is considered a high-impact symposium and is an excellent networking opportunity for students. If the NC Division winner cannot attend the APS meeting, the runner-up will attend and present instead.

Sally Miller (Ohio St. Univ.; APS President) gave the APS President's report. She mentioned that competition for special sessions is stiff and set sessions are discouraged. This may impact the ability of APS to retain the Divisional Forum Symposia. The session was classified as a technical session instead of a symposium to help alleviate this

problem. The drawback is that technical sessions have more time restrictions, which could limit networking opportunities.

Old business: No old business.

New business:

George Sundin discussed the need to break even on our NC Division meetings. Registration costs for the 2015 meeting increased from \$100 per attendee to \$125 for 2015. There was discussion about raising the costs to \$150 per attendee for 2016 to help off-set meeting costs. The preliminary totals for 2015 meeting income were \$16,000 in registration fees and \$11,000 in sponsor donations. The group discussed how to improve costs for Minnesota meeting. George Sundin will prepare a document that outlines meeting costs, and this can be used as a guideline for future meetings.

The student travel award model was discussed. Currently, the division offers 11 to 13 student travel awards annually. It was suggested that travel awards foster student loyalty within the division. George Sundin proposed that the Division should provide 11 awards annually with the flexibility to increase the number of awards if needed. Febina Mathew seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Future meetings: Angela Orshinsky (Univ. Minnesota) stated that the 2016 meeting will be held in Minnesota. The University of Illinois will host the meeting in 2017 (chair to be determined) and there was some discussion about the potential for Monsanto to host the meeting for Missouri in 2018 or 2019. Martin Chilvers will contact someone at Monsanto to gauge their interest in hosting an upcoming meeting. North Dakota would be next in line after Missouri to host the Division meeting.

All of the attendees thanked Michigan State University for hosting an excellent meeting, and thanks were given to George Sundin for service as President, and to Amanda Gevens for service as Divisional Forum Rep. Thanks were also given to Cindy Scheller and Kathy Guderjahn (APS Headquarters) for their help in meeting preparation.

Minutes prepared by: Kiersten Wise, Secretary/Treasurer