

## **Minutes of the 69<sup>th</sup> Eastern Colleges Science Conference (ECSC) Board of Trustees Annual Meeting, April 18, 2015, Niagara University, Niagara University, New York**

### **Officers**

Chairman of the Board: Donald Stearns (Wagner College)

President: Jay Pike (Providence College)

Treasurer and Secretary: Lance Evans (Manhattan College)

### **Other Board Members and Guests in Attendance**

Zofia Gagnon (Marist College)

Connie Greene (Niagara University)

Robert Greene (Niagara University)

Anthony Kapolka (Wilkes University) (elected board member)\*

Michael Kotarski (Niagara University)

Ghislaine Mayer (Manhattan College) (guest)

Barbara Murdoch (Eastern Connecticut State University) (elected board member)\*

Helen Murphy (John Carroll University)

Brian Palestis (Wagner College)\*

Ronny Priefer (Western New England University)\*

Cyndy Scheibe (Ithaca College)

Stephen Slauson (University of Saint Joseph) (elected board member)

Walter Steiner (Niagara University)

Cyrilla Wideman (John Carroll University)

Janet Williams (Elms College)

Lori Wojciechowicz (Marist College) (elected board member)

\*Member, ECSC Travel Grant Program Committee

### **Action Items and Discussion**

The meeting was called to order by Don Stearns at 1:18 p.m. with a statement that any board member could introduce any agenda item for consideration.

**1. Nominations to the board:** The following individuals were nominated and unanimously elected to the board:

Anthony Kapolka, Associate Professor, Wilkes University (nominated by Don Stearns)

Barbara Murdoch, Assistant Professor, Eastern Connecticut State University (nominated by Don Stearns)

Stephen Slauson, University of Saint Joseph (nominated by Don Stearns)

Lori Wojciechowicz, Marist College (nominated by Zofia Gagnon)

**2. Proposed ECSC logo considered for board approval:** Don Stearns presented for board approval a proposed ECSC logo that had been approved by the ECSC Logo Revision Committee (**Appendix A**). During the ensuing discussion, there was confusion regarding the identification and interpretation of some of the symbols (e.g. the items located near the 3:00 and 4:00 o'clock positions, the bubbles being emitted from the test tube, the background shading found from approximately 7:00 to 12:00 o'clock). The board did not approve the proposed logo as is and requested a clearer revision to consider.

**3. Treasurer's report:** Lance Evans reported that, prior to the invoice from Niagara University for ECSC 2015, ECSC had a balance of \$21,005.18. The invoice from Niagara University for the combined subsidy of \$5 per individual registration and \$7 per banquet dinner is \$2,668. Therefore, the balance as of April 17, 2015 is \$18,337.18.

**4. Registration and banquet discounts considered for spring, 2016 conference:** According to Lance Evans, ECSC can afford to extend the \$5 registration and \$7 banquet subsidies for the spring, 2016 conference. The board approved the proposal to extend the subsidy another year.

**5. Funding to support ECSC travel costs and creation of ECSC Travel Grant Program Formation Committee:** Ronny Priefer proposed offering travel grants to encourage ECSC participation by budget-strapped institutions. The board approved the establishment of a new fund for that purpose, budgeting \$2,000 per year towards a competitive travel grant program for use towards registration and attendance at the annual ECSC. Each grant application could submit a request for up to and including \$1,000 during the fall prior to the spring meeting. The ECSC Travel Grant Program Formation Committee was set up to recommend specific components of the program, for consideration by the board. The members of the ECSC Travel Grant Program Formation Committee are:

Anthony Kapolka (Wilkes University)

Barbara Murdoch (Eastern Connecticut State University)

Brian Palestis (Wagner College)

Ronny Priefer (Western New England University, committee chair)

**6. Presenting ECSC awards:** Cyndy Scheibe recommended, and the board approved, that a survey be conducted during ECSC 2016, to assess the perspectives of student presenters regarding ECSC awards, as part of an ongoing discussion regarding the value of awards in encouraging students to present their research at ECSC. Cyndy volunteered to coordinate the survey, which will likely take place during the evening banquet, both before and after the award presentations. Cyndy will involve primarily Ithaca College students and faculty in creating the survey and implementing it.

**7. Online posting of ECSC posters:** Brian Palestis presented evidence that ECSC posters have been published on ePosters.net without permission of all authors. Although ePosters.net did take down these posters when requested by unapproving authors, there is no mechanism in place to ensure that all authors of a poster presentation have approved such a posting. Because ECSC cannot prevent such events, a motion was made and approved stating that ECSC will not advertise ePosters.net to students.

**8. Future ECSC Meetings:** Western New England University will be hosting the next (70<sup>th</sup>) annual meeting of the ECSC Saturday, April 2, 2016. No institutions have yet formally committed to hosting the conference after 2016. Please contact Don Stearns if you would like your institution considered. Having willing hosts is crucial for sustaining ECSC.

The meeting was adjourned 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance S. Evans

Treasurer and Secretary of ECSC Board of Trustees

Original completed April 19, 2015; revision sent for posting June 2, 2015

**APPENDIX A: ECSC Proposed Logo Considered During April 18, 2015 ECSC Board Meeting**

