

In Person Meeting

Present: Jan. 27

Dawanne Poree, Mary Ann Meador, Justin Kennemur, Colleen Scott, Semra Colak-Atan, Kathy Mitchem, Allan Guymon, Christine Coltrain, Laura Stratton, Kathryn Uhrich, Haley Brown, Jeff Ting, Kaitlyn Crawford, Oleg Davydovich, Beth Elacqua, Yoan Simon, Dannibelle Haase, John Matson

Highlights Summary of Motions and Votes

Motion 1 (by M.A. Meador): (2nd Guymon) A person has to be a POLY member for 5 consecutive years to be eligible for POLY Fellows nomination.

- **Vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain**

Motion 2 (by Guymon): (2nd Poree) Create a (\$6K annual) Officer Travel Support Budget that involves a \$3K / meeting cap (\$500 max per person) of reimbursement funds help support voting ExComm members & programming chairs (excluding Councilors) to travel to ACS meetings. To be requested at least 1 month in advance of the meeting to be attended. Requests are made to the POLY Chair.

- **Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain**

Motion 3 (by (Kennemur): (2nd Guymon) to approve Fluoropolymers Workshop (2025)

- **Vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain**

Motion 4 (by Poree): (2nd: Meador) to approve NGRPC at Arizona State in 2025

- **Vote: 8 yes , 0 no, 0 abstain**

Motion 5 (by Poree): (2nd: Patton) to approve the 2024 POLY Budget put forth by Matson

- **Vote: 8 yes , 0 no, 0 abstain**

Detailed Minutes and Discussions (In-Person Meeting):

MEETING START: January 27, 2024; 8:30 am

ExComm Opening (Poree)

(slides)

- *Introductions, Roles, and Agenda*
- *Chair Initiatives for 2024*
 - -see slides-
 - Building a Membership Network and a Pipeline (efforts to expand and retain members)

- Largest membership decrease is between years 1 and 2 (free→not free), therefore how do we increase the value of POLY to retain them?
 - M.A. Meador – some of this has to do with those that become a one-off members to pay less for ACS Meeting registration not much we can do about those instances.
 - Crawford – Meeting landscape is changing, maybe discussion on this can help.
 - Brown – Incentivization by having awards, accolades based on years of service (in this case years of membership)
 - Scott – Reaching out to Assistant Professors and bringing them into the fold could go a long way for membership and recruitment.
 - Mitchem – We used to send personalized packages out to our circles and those would get passed along to new colleagues with encouragement.
 - Additional discussions on new events (Asst Prof social), “carrots” to encourage members,
 - Stratton - supporting “how to network” like a pre-event on networking prior to an actual network event
 - Kennemur – We could perhaps piggyback on already existing forums for “graduate excellence, future faculty, CAREER Workshops, New Industrial Members, Young Investigators”
 - Colak-Atan – New generations “network” differently now, we might consider how to engage them or encourage them to engage in more traditional ways
 - Simon & Crawford – we need to influence their changing values
 - Poree - 20% of membership are students.
 - Haase – Changing times may require us to reconsider our value proposition to what is valued by new generations currently.
 - Scott – Networking is done from a phone, we need to reinvent what is considered valued, we need an influencer or something similar to engage their interests.
 - Uhrich – This comes back to strategic plan and the potential IFG proposal on communication.
- Building a Pipeline of Volunteers
 - Colak-Atan – Potentially add a “Volunteer button” on website.
 - Stratton – We need to get the volunteer infrastructure in place first before soliciting because there have been occasions where people sign up but never get contacted or followed-up with.
 - Several discussions on structure and organization, matrix, communications on connecting volunteers to potential areas/people of POLY to contribute. Programming as an entry point and how to integrate them to experienced teams.
 - Crawford and others – can we develop a system to bring along new volunteers?

- Improved Circulation and Preparation of Committee Chairs
 - Should a time limit be placed on committee chairs?
 - Add a co-chair in the final year for training/transition?
 - Committees are in need of successors
 - Motion (Guymon): All standing committees (except programming) have a chair for 4 years, a co-chair is to be integrated in last two years. (**tabled**)
- Make sure to nominate people for the Distinguished Service Award
- ACS Fellows noms open Feb 1 – Apr 1, 2024
- **Motion (Meador): (2nd Guymon) A person has to be a POLY member for 5 consecutive years to be eligible for POLY Fellows nomination.**
 - **Vote: Yes 8, No 0, Abstain 0**

- COUNCILORS REPORT

- **(Meador): on “Attendee Experience Sub-committee”**
 - ACS in process of implementing task force on reimagining meetings, discussion on making spring different than fall. Fall envisioned as smaller meeting with more industrial focus. Meetings may look very different by 2030. (many things going on, many moving parts)
 - Coltrain: How will affect programming? A: Take advantages of opportunities as new structures are implemented.
 - May be a singular – all invited – event at the meeting
 - Spring – piloting an orientation video (for 1st time attendees)
 - Piloting new program formats: Reimagined poster session, something more directed at industrial members, focus on younger members (done in conjunction with DAC).
 - Stratton: Its important we get enough lead info in case POLY wants to do something.
 - Kennemur: Would like to have concern expressed to ACS regarding some lack of support when experimental things are done to support ACS vision but financial support is not offered to help encourage it. (Ex: Relocation of POLY/PMSE poster session as a means of improving the attendee experience). POLY/PMSE will pay more money to have their posters at the hotel. (Update: ACS has offered to pay half but not all)
- **Uhrich: MnE (Meetings and Expositions)**
 - Lots of discussions at ACS about future meetings. We should be thinking about that also. They will be decreasing the footprint, we may need to be more creative. We may need to relocate some things to Expo space. ACS is paying for the large expo and its not getting all used.

- Get ahead of ideas for allocating sessions at the expo
 - Matson – We are saving ACS money by doing this should we shouldn't do it for free.
 - Haase – We want to keep people engaged, there are decisions that need to be made carefully in this regard.
 - Scott: Food at poster session is a bad idea (people leave the session to get the food), maybe wait until the end so people stick around.
 - Davydovich – Might be good to get a gauge on people who plan on attending the poster session, possibly at the membership desk or replying to the daily email.
- Diversifying Slates committee: There is a lot of “who knows who” decisions. Uhrich is joining this slate to improve the diversity that is excluded from those type of decisions.
 - Diversification
 - Term limit discussion (of National Committee Chairs)
 - Local sections (more regional meeting representation)
 - More focus is being placed on International Representation. POLY may think about getting ahead of this and have representation in the international committee representation efforts.

- **TREASURERS REPORT (Coltrain and Matson)**

- **Coltrain:**
- Welcome new treasurer John.
- *****SLIDES***** detailed information on budgetary values
- 2023 Recap:
 - Division Allocation from ACS is an important source of income:
 - Calculation of this isn't quite straightforward?
 - Kennemur: We should get a good understanding of this because of said importance of the allocation.
 - One problem is that they keep changing the “equation” for allocation.
 - Meador: Best not to ask what the equation is.
 - Detailed breakdown of the income and expenses of 2023 (see slides)
- **Matson:**

- Discussion on reviewing minutes from last year. Seems many comments are similar about budget reduction.
- Colak-Atak – We need to have the budget discussion before the winter meeting so its not so last minute.
- Discussion on areas for budget spending reduction and or discussion:
 - Organizer Gifts? – small gifts given to symposium organizers for their efforts
 - It's a nice gesture
 - Crawford – I don't really need the "schwag" would be happy to just get recognition.
 - Will a \$6K budget for membership bring in \$6K in new memberships
 - Scott and Davydovich – It's a challenge to itemize, it's a lot of small things,
- Discussion on cost of ACS meeting attendance for required officers.
- **Motion (Guymon): Create a (\$6K annual) Officer Travel Support Budget (2nd Poree) that involves a \$3K / meeting cap (\$500 max per person) of requestable reimbursement funds help support voting ExComm members & a programming chair (excluding Councilors) to travel to ACS meetings. To be requested at least 1 month in advance of the meeting to be attended. Requests are made to the POLY Chair**

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 1

--break--

- **SECRETARY REPORT (Kennemur)**

- See –slides--
- Mary Ann's dog is here.
- Congrats to new elected officers (~23% of body voted, similar to 2022)
- Kennemur provides information on how rooms, A/V, and FnB are reserved for POLY meetings at an ACS National Meeting (the ai system)
- Much conversation about the overcharging and ambiguity of ACS National Meeting hotel bill. (example: the \$5K charges for power strips and the overcharging of the Plenary for the setup of the prior ChemLuminary event.)
- Brown: One idea is to hold the Plenary Events outside the ACS Hotel. Money could be saved this way.

WEBSITE and SOCIAL MEDIA - Davydovich

- Twitter(X) growth is increasing, Facebook and LinkedIn have very slight increases over the last 5 years.
- Welcome to Tayler Hebner to the website and social media team!

- Reminder: The website folks only know to update what they are told. Chairs are encouraged to check the site from time to time to ensure their area is current. **Provide webmaster with updates.** Contact info is on the POLY site.

Programming: (Haase)

- SLIDES – Recap of 2023 and looking ahead to 2024 and beyond
- Symposia are being ironed out for Denver (F24) and we are recruiting symposia for San Diego (S25)
 - Kennemur: It would be great if the slide showing all the proposed symposia for F24 be put on the POLY website for member reference. (also this would be nice to implement going forward so others can see what upcoming symposia are in the works)
- POLY Programming Rotations Team: Orski (done but still helping), Moore, Haase, Kalow, and currently recruiting a new member. (Guymon is talking to several people)
- Crawford: Are there potential ways to involve student and student chapter organizers, perhaps with a pamphlet or instructional video.
- Mitchem: One issue is the rate of ongoing change to the way programming is done. Its hard to create direct instructional efforts when things keep changing.
- Brown: Establishing a programming “coach” who can help mentor young volunteers in the area of programming would be great.
- The General Topics Symposium was improved last year. There was awards for students and it would be good to keep these things going.
- Welcome to Laura Patton!
- Future of Meetings Discussion: (see slide)
 - Spring 2025: 49 ½ day symp per division, 4 max joint symp, 3 max hybrid, 6 max session rooms.
 - Fall 2025 (3.5 days new ACS meeting format): 32, 4, 9, 5 (respectively from the list above)
 - No technical programming on Sunday. Increase in Hybrid/Digital Experience Sessions up to 25% (goal).

AWARDS (Stratton)

- See SLIDES for list of current and upcoming awards.
- Brief discussion on the need for a rubric to assist with the judging awards process.
- Not all awards are judged by the same committee structure.

IAB (Brown-Chair and Ting Co-Chair)

- SLIDES –
- Discussion on the roles/duties of the chair and co-chair of IAB
- A new robust strategy is needed for IAB to engage sponsorship. Shifting sands have made keeping contact and sponsorship with some companies difficult (ex. DuPont).

- IAB budget slide didn't match Treasurer's. Matson loses \$14,000 in 1 minute. Welcome to treasurer.
 - o Follow-up discussion on agreed budgetary amount was made.
- New initiatives: Company retainment and recruitment. Small company incentives working well. Working on potential mods for larger companies.
- New Symposium to be held in Fall 2024 (w PMSE and CINF) "Elevating the Power of Data for Materials and chemical scientists in Industry" (IAB member co-organized)
- NING (New Industry Networking Group) – working on a spotlight series to support early career scientists. (communications made through Slack channel, mostly word of mouth to this point)

WORKSHOPS, MEETINGS, & INTERNATIONAL (Patton)

- **Motion (Kennemur) to approve Fluoropolymers Workshop (2025) (2nd:Guymon)**
 - o **YES 8, No 0, Abstain 0**
- **Motion (Poree) to approve NGRPC at Arizona State in 2025 (2nd: Meador)**
 - o **YES 8, No 0, Abstain 0**
- Beth Elacqua is joining the Workshops team and learning under Marc.
- PoWers – June 2024 – Details on this are in the slides. Limitations to the front office time and treasurer budget are put in place for this.
- PPC-18: successful. some details provided in slide, more details will be provided at the spring meeting.

PAST CHAIR REPORT (Guymon)

- Lots of change from 1 year ago. Loss of Lesia, Workshop regulations, etc.
- Some discussion on ways workshops may fall short of meeting attendance, bottom line green, etc.
 - o Locations, attendance, and dinner structuring (amenities). Expense of attending some of the workshops in certain locations can be daunting.

MEMBERSHIP (Davydovich)

- Slides –
- Discussion on Kat's effort to make the social event at Denver awesome.
- Student Chapters (Crawford): Showed the poster example from CSU as a good example of how to construct the poster. Proposed to print and display the winning posters at ACS NOLA. Top 3 chapters are: CSU, UMN, FAMU/FSU.

PAST CHAIR REPORT cont. (Guymon)

- Revisiting the strategic plan
- Kennemur: Results of the G3:S2 survey (see slides)
- Names suggested for upcoming elections, more names are encouraged if anyone has any.

- Small committee of past chairs working on future planning.
 - o They were able to sustain ACS Publications sponsorship for 23-24 (\$5K to each POLY and PMSE)
 - o RSC interested POLY General Topics Oral Awards
 - o RSC also interested in Mark Awards (~\$10K every two years)
- Ideas for the Flory, Marvel, and IPS Awards?

APPROVAL OF BUDGET (Matson)

- **Dawanne Move to approve buyget (Patton 2nd):**
 - o **8 YES, 0 NO, 0 Abstain**

-----MEETING ADJOURNS: 5:00pm-----

Pre-Meeting (ZOOM)

01/22/2024 (recorded on Zoom)

Introductions:

Dawanne Poree, Carlee Black, Kathy Mitchem, Jeff Ting, Beth Elacqua, Mary Ann Meador, John Matson, Christine Coltrain, Oleg Davydovich, Tayler Hebner, Marc Hillmyer, Allan Guymon, Yoan Simon, Kat Knauer.

Note: Quorum not met. No votes at this meeting.

Discussions:

Workshop Report – Hillmyer (See PowerPoint slides for full information)

- 2023 (est 15K Admin fee, per workshop, covers cost of time/salary/etc to front office)
 - o Fluoropolymer 2023: +\$335
 - o Sustainable Polymers 2023: +\$9,703
 - o Controlled Radical Polymerization: -\$7,360
 - o Annual total to POLY from workshops = +\$2,678 (Note additional +\$4K may add to this from a last minute sponsorship)
 - o Note: all income/expenses for an annual Workshop year is not necessarily accumulated or spent in that calendar year. It can be spread out.
- 2024 – Two Approved Workshops (Fire & Polymers , Advances in Polyolefins)
 - o Two workshops is a viable quantity for reduced office staffing (was more when we had Lesia)
- 2025 –
 - o Excomm approved a workshop on Polymer Upcycling and Circularity but it was collectively decided to postpone this until 2026 (on hold0
 - o Deciding to go forward with Fluoropolymers in 2025 (Requires ExComm Approval for the Spring of 2025)

- POLY NGRPC 2025 – Arizona State University was decided the winning proposal. (Requires ExComm Approval)
- QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION
 - Guymon – clarification – Administrative fee doesn't show up on the budget but it is embedded in what the workshop actually costs?
 - Mitchem – We can't charge ourselves so its used as an expense.
 - Hillmyer – Its important to convey this expense so workshop organizers know that this uses people's time and costs money
 - Coltrain – Is there a reason why CRP lost money?
 - Mitchem – Attendance was lower than expected, Charleston is fairly expensive, sponsors were just a little short. Just a little more of attendance or sponsors would have likely made this one in the green.
 - Poree – Timeline clarification for Fall 2025 Workshop?
 - Hillmyer – All call should be done in early Feb. Recommends opening it up to the community "all call" to see what comes in. But soliciting past successful workshops are also a good idea. (ExComm should approve this plan at WM?)
 - Hillmyer – Ideal approval would be the ExComm meeting in March 2024.

Other Discussions:

- **Poree:** IPG Proposals. Coralie's submission was not approved so we have the option to resubmit.
 - M.A. Meador – This was on the social media communications consultant. No feedback?
 - Guymon – We asked ACS for feedback, we never got any feedback that it wasn't funded and never got any feedback why it wasn't funded.
 - M.A. Meador – Kate may have insight and should be able to help with these questions.
 - Poree – possible resubmission in Feb cycle once more information is known.
 - Note: \$7500 was asked for
 - Be thinking forward to another possible submission in July.
- **Poree:** Awards. Please nominate for Special or Distinguished Service Awards if you have any nominees that come to mind. By the 31st.
 - ACS Fellow Noms: Poly Fellows that are not ACS Fellows are a good canvas for nominees, a few have been identified.
 - Discussion on the importance of the service component needed for this award.
- **Guymon:** PPC-18 was a good conference and believes they did well. POLY was well recognized for their support throughout.
- **Knauer:** Regarding the Student Social on NOLA
 - Since PMSE is doing their Centennial events, they wondered if we would either move or forego the student social. We don't have a sponsor or an organizer this meeting. Should we merge with the PMSE centennial?
 - Coltrain – Would be a good idea to be a participant on this.
 - Poree – Would like to advertise that we are foregoing this event to support the PMSE Centennial event (rather than just cancelling it).
 - M.A. Meador – it's important that the students know this is an event for them and they are encouraged to come.
 - Knauer will run all this by PMSE and get back
 - Knauer says that Denver will be a really cool one!

No more discussions – zoom meeting adjourned.