

Executive Committee Meeting

February 15, 2019 4:15pm EST by conference call

The executive committee met by conference call February 15, 2019, 4:15pm EST. By way of roll call those present were President Steve Ropski, Past Presidents Don Roush, Larry Koehler, Past Vice President Sister Rose Bast, Vice Presidents Felix Velazquez, Julie Ballenger, Fred Brenner, Adam Ryburn, and Tony Schountz, BIOS Editor Lori Kelman and National Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Roush and assistant Iris Daly.

Steve welcomed everyone. He had several items to discuss.

He wanted to increase the number of Bertholf Award applications. The national office sent the application to all chapters in 2017 and received 12 applications for 2016-2017. The national office sent the Bertholf Award application to all chapter in 2018 and received 8 applications for 2017-2018. The national office will continue to send the Bertholf Award application before the district meeting and with the fall mailing. Felix suggested that the application be given to all chapters at monthly meetings and at district meeting. Most districts give an outstanding chapter based on similar criteria for the national Bertholf Award application.

Steve noted that the membership registrations had declined. He will send a letter that is to be emailed to all chapters to try to encourage more students to become members. He also wanted to encourage all chapters to donate to the research grant fund.

Steve wanted an evaluation form sent to all vice presidents and district directors to use when reviewing the research grants. The national office will send an evaluation form to vice presidents and district directors right away and before the research grant process begins. He also wants the policy of 6 grants per chapter and 3 grants per faculty research advisor sent to everyone when the grants application was made available.

Steve mentioned the cost of Asilomar was \$269,000 and the last Puerto Rico convention was \$176,000 and wanted to be sure we stayed on a budget. Tony mentioned that usually the year that there was not national convention usually had positive revenue. Kathy thought the figures mentioned were incorrect for Asilomar and Puerto Rico and wanted to check the figures. She said that the national office would try to keep the cost of the next national convention as low as possible.

Steve requested everyone send Lori memories of Paul Yokley for publishing in BIOS.

Steve said the audit was completed and the tax return completed, which was needed to maintain the nonprofit status of 501(c)(3). He was told by the auditor the membership revenue was down by \$50,000 and the cost of the last national convention caused a deficit of \$58,000.

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The first item of business was the 2020 national convention report located at Columbus State University, Columbus, GA chapter Mu Omicron.
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Kathy and Julie reported for the National Convention 2020. The Convention will be from Wednesday May 27 – Sunday May 31, 2020. Executive committee will be in a hotel off campus Monday May 25 – May 31, 2020.

National convention 2020

Contract housing, food, meeting rooms, breaks, printing, Field Trip buses \$73,318;
To be determined \$750 travel grants, \$200 travel grants, field trips cost per person, Executive committee travel, meals, Hotel EC

Julie stated that the hotel is off campus and a shuttle could be used to transport people.

Each dorm room has a shared bathroom.

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The second item of business was the approval of the minutes May-June 2018.
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Don moved, and Tony seconded the minutes of May-June 2018 be approved with corrections.
Motion Passed.

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The third item of business is a report from the national office.
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Kathy reported for the national office. All reports have been sent two weeks prior to the conference call.

The first item for consideration from the national office is approval of new charters

University of New Haven	NE-1 Bettica 4/04/2018
Miami Dade College -North Campus	SE-1 Sutton, DRoush 4/2018
Eckerd College	SE-1 Sutton, EFreundt 12/18
Lafayette College	NE-2 Royer 10/18
Webster University	NC-2 RCowlshaw 10/18
Bryan College of Health Science	NC-2 RCowlshaw, AMorris 11/18
Southern Wesleyan University	SE-1 Sutton 6/2018
University of South Carolina/upstate	SE-1 Sutton 6/2018
SUNY/Binghamton	NE-2 DRoyer 1/2019

Julie asked if University of South Carolina upstate and Webster University had a biology degree and biology minor. After checking the web page of both Universities, they both have BS degrees in biology and biology minors. The constitution was referenced that regular members had to be biology majors. The committee indicated that Chemistry majors could be associates but not regular members even if they had a biology minor and took enough biology courses to qualify for regular membership. The constitution committee was going look at the wording in the constitution for regular membership qualifications.

Fred moved, and Tony seconded to grant the above listed universities a charter of Beta Beta Beta National Biology Honor Society.

Motion Passed.

The second item for consideration from the national office is an increase in the membership fees. The national office indicated that by using mass email to all chapters for the fall mailing saved a lot in postage cost.

The national office recommended an increase in membership fees starting August 1, 2019 from \$50 to \$55 for regular, graduate, and honorary members, and from \$40 to \$45 for associate members, and the promoted fees remain the same \$10.

Fred moved, and Tony seconded to increase the fees from \$50 to \$55 for regular, graduate and honorary members, and \$40 to \$45 for associate members and promoted fees remain the same \$10 starting August 1, 2019.

Motion Passed.

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The third item of business was the Vice Presidents reports.
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Lori reported for BIOS a Quarterly Journal. She said she needed reviewers. She also requested any one send her their memories of Paul Yokley for publishing in BIOS. The May 2018 issue was in printing. The September 2018 and December 2018 issues have lots of pictures and will have no polybags. The 2019 first issue is ready. It was asked at last meeting how many submitted papers did BIOS reject. Last year 8 were accepted. So far this year 7 have been submitted.

Fred reported for the Northeast Region. All district conventions were scheduled. NE-1 will be held at Hofstra University, Alpha Lambda, April 27, 2019, NE-2 will be held at Bloomsburg University Rho Chi March 23. NE-3 will be held at University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg, Theta Pi, April 6. NE-4 will be held at Mount St Joseph, Xi Gamma, April 13.

Julie reported Southeastern Regional Convention meets jointly with ASB (Association of Southeastern Biologists). They have met jointly for 60 years. The 2019 conference will be held in Memphis and organized by Dr. Lee Sutton East Carolina University. Julie will work on the inactive chapters. Steve offered to visit district meeting at no cost to TriBeta. Gannon University had funds that could be used for the district meeting visits.

Felix reported for the Caribbean Region. The Regional convention has been scheduled for May 3-5, 2019. The Zeta Alpha chapter will be the host. Felix wanted to work with any inactive chapters. All chapter were very involved with community service projects and many other projects.

Adam reported for the Southcentral Region. The Southcentral regional meeting will be held the 1st week in April. They have a website for the registration for the regional meeting. Adam was looking for a speaker for the awards banquet. Ali Azghani was stepping down from district director position. Debra Hinson will be the new district director for SC-2. It will be announced at the regional meeting.

Tony reported for the Western Region. The district meetings are scheduled. West 1 will be held at Colorado State University-Fort Collins last week of March. West 2 will be held at University of San Francisco. Dr. Niles is the contact person. Crosby had invited him to speak at their regional meeting.

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The fourth item of business was the committee reports
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Adam reported for the research grant committee. The number of requested grants and the number of funded grants has increased. He asked if we could increase the total amount of funds for the grants.

Steve said he would write a letter to be sent to all chapters asking for
-increase in members registered
-reviewers for BIOS
-donations to the research fund

Tony reported for the McClung Award committee. The McClung Award winner is:

BIOS 88(4):153-161, 2017 "Earthworm Coelomocytes Exhibit Chemotaxis to Pathogen-associated Molecular Patterns: an in vitro Analysis Using a Combined Boyden-flow cytometry Approach."

Fred reported for the Bertholf Award. There were 8 applications submitted. The Bertholf Award winner is

Bertholf Winners 2017-18

1st - Angelo State Uni/Epsilon Sigma
Honorable Mention - U or PR, Aguadilla/Zeta Lambda
Honorable Mention- SW Ok State Uni/Delta Sigma

Outstanding Chapters

Gannon Uni/Theta Omega
St. John Fisher College/Upsilon Rho
College of NJ/Chi Upsilon
InterAmerican Uni PR, San German/Zeta Beta
Wilkes University /Theta Delta

Don reported for the Yokley Awards. He asked everyone to make recommendations for the Yokley Award from the list provided. The recommended names will be voted on at the next national meeting. Kathy asked if a certificate for retiring advisors could be given to the retiring chapter advisors. Everyone agreed it would be good to give them a certificate for service.

Sister Rose reported for the budget committee. The audit was completed, and the tax return completed which was needed to maintain the nonprofit status of 501(c)(3) with no problems.

Larry reported for the constitution committee. He said the committee will work on the wording of the membership qualification description in the constitution. He asked that if anyone wanted to step down from Vice President position to please let him know.

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The fifth item of business was New/Old Business.
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Don suggested possibly a student advisory board. A discussion is needed to decide which students should serve on the advisory board.

Tony presented recommendations for the TriBeta investments. He thought Raymond James group charged too much. Kathy reported the Raymond James group would reduce their fees.

A committee was formed to make recommendations and determine the investment goals for the society. The committee members will be Tony, Don, Lori, Amy, and Fred.

Questions to the committee were as follows

What are the short-term goals of our investments?
What are the long-term goals of our investments?
Have funds ever been taken from the investment account? Kathy responded that no funds have ever been taken from the investment accounts.

Is it wise to keep more than half our assets in cash/cash alternatives that likely do not keep pace with inflation?
How risk averse are we?
What ratio of stocks to bonds do we want?
How much income from membership dues do we get each year? Kathy responded average between \$400,000 and \$500,000.

How much do we spend each year? Kathy responded close to the same as the income. Off years from the national convention could have \$10,000 to \$30,000 on the positive side.

What are the potential tax implications for a 501(c)(3) entity? Kathy responded no tax implications.

Tony moved to Adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Roush
