

**Red River Valley Section of ACS Executive Meeting – October 14, 2011 – 6:00 PM  
Hillsboro, ND**

Present – Matthew Picklo, William Shay, Roy Garvey, Tom Gonnella, David Mork, Mohammed Nasrullah, Harmon Abrahamson

**Reports/Announcements:**

1. RRV Local Section won the Chemluminary Award for Outstanding Leadership Development for the second year in a row. The award was accepted by Section Chair David Mork and Councilor Harmon Abrahamson at the Fall National Meeting in Denver. Kudos to Matt Picklo for organizing the Leadership Development Workshops.
2. Treasurer's Report: Fund balance is approximately \$21,600. Annual income from ACS allotment and dues is about \$6,800.
3. Chemistry Olympiad: Needs a champion. After some discussion, Matt Picklo volunteered for the role. One idea is to have J. Chem. Educ. and/or Chem Matters sent to local HS teachers to increase interest for Chemistry Olympiad activities.
4. Great Lakes Regional Meeting: Harmon Abrahamson is our representative to the Region Board. The Region is attempting to reorganized and get some regularity back into the schedule after five years with only sporadic meetings. There is a proposal being floated to have the Regional Meeting go to an every-second-year schedule, with assignments of local sections to host projected ten years out. The proposal also has the smaller sections (including ours) combining to host. RRVLS's tentative assignment is with NE Wisconsin, Lake Superior, and Upper Peninsula for 2014. After discussion, RRVLS Exec. Comm. voted 7-0 to agree. Harmon to communicate this to Region Board at their meeting in conjunction with this year's Regional Meeting in St. Louis on October 22. (Harmon and some others will participate by phone.)  
[Note added in proof: At their meeting, the Region Board modified the proposed schedule, and GLRM will be every second year in odd-numbered years; RRV hosting (with the others noted above) now scheduled for **2017** (end of May or beginning of June). Planning will need to begin at least two years prior.]
5. HS Chemistry Clubs: Harmon collected responses to this recent inquiry. There were about five noted by various people; those names were forwarded to National, from whence the original request came. Matt asked for the information to aid him in Chem Olympiad.
6. Other: Discussion about appointing/electing an undergraduate (STUDENT MEMBER) liaison to the Executive Committee.

**Reports/Announcements:**

1. Elections. Our slate of candidates for the 2012 year will be decided upon by the end of October. After discussion, Matt Picklo volunteered to run for Chair (since we currently have no Chair-Elect to advance automatically to that office). Some possible names of Chair-Elect candidates were suggested, with various of those in attendance volunteering to contact them. Tom Gonnella will run for Treasurer, and Harmon Abrahamson is in the middle of a three year term as councilor that expires in 2012. Mohammed Nasrullah and Asoka Marasinghe were mentioned for Secretary, and Julie Abrahamson and Alena Kubatova were mentioned as possible At-Large candidates.

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2. URMS meeting (10/29): Judging rubric was discussed. Decided to use that developed for the Young Investigator Award last year. Awards will be 2 @ \$400 each plus a CRC for student choice award. Voted unanimously to increase our general support contribution to the meeting to \$400 from the \$300 we did last year.
3. National Chemistry Week events?
  - Matt Picklo has a copy of the play “Oxygen” by Carl Djerassi and Roald Hoffmann; will look into finding a venue to host. Harmon A. also has a copy.
  - Julie Abrahamson sent word that UND’s Undergrad Chem Club will be doing demonstrations and hands-on activities for grade school and middle school audience on Nov. 5; she asked for reimbursement for materials (chemistry give-aways), which was approved unanimously.
4. Young Investigator Award: Planning for this year needs to begin; consensus is to do it the same as last year.
5. Suggestion made to add the URL for the RRVLS website to the “signature” line of ListServ messages. Harmon A. will investigate.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Harmon B. Abrahamson