

Red River Valley Section of ACS Executive Committee Meeting
– Sept 14 2012 – 6:00 PM Karma Restaurant, Fargo, N. D.

Present – Alena Kubatova, Gary Edverson, Leonard Cook, Matthew Picklo (Chair), Richard Cochran, Anthony Ostlund, Seth Rasmussen, Bill Shay, Roy Garvey, David Mork, Harmon Abrahamson, Julie Abrahamson, Asoka Marasinghe.

1. **Young Investigator Award (YIA) 2013 planning has started.** We are planning to hold the event at Mayville State University on the first Saturday of February, 2013. Tom Gonnella is beginning the planning with Mayville State.

If you anticipate having a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow attend the Spring 2013 ACS meeting, consider having them enter the YIA. More information will follow.

2. **URMS/ACS competition.** The fall 2012 URMS conference will not be held this year and because the URMS future meetings are uncertain RRVLS-ACS will initiate a research presentation gathering for undergraduates. Coordinators for such a meeting are needed; time and place of the conference is yet to be decided.
2. **A Science Café will be held November in 2012.** The theme for the café is “History of Glass” and Seth Rasmussen will be charge of organizing the event. Possible venues are Plains Art Museum and Fargo Glass and Paint (Gary Edverson will look into the availability).
3. **Seth Rasmussen was appointed chair-elect for 2012.** Matthew moved and Harmon seconded to appoint Seth Rasmussen for the current office of Chair-Elect 2011; approved unanimously by the committee. Owing to the vacancy of chair-elect for 2012, the committee, according to the section by laws, appointed Seth Rasmussen (currently at large member in RRV section and Professor of Chemistry at NDSU). Seth is active ACS at the national level.
4. **The Chair-elect for 2013 and chair for 2013 will attend the 2013 ACS Leadership Institute to be held in Austin, Texas.** Harmon moved that RRV section cover the expenses for the participation of the Chair of 2013 and Chair-elect. The Executive Committee approved unanimously.
5. **IPG grant with Turtle Mountain Community College.** Alena Kubatova was awarded an ACS Innovative Project Grant (IPG) and briefed the committee with the progress made in a project aimed at recruiting Native Americans into chemistry research. She and her student Richard Cochran are training students at the Turtle Mountain Community College in analytical chemistry techniques and use of gas chromatographs. Since the full grant amount requested was not awarded, Alena sought for supplementary funding from the RRV section to complete this current IPG based project. The committee agreed to her request.

One of the projects in this IPG grant is to have a roundtable/training seminar on teaching students the business aspects of science. We anticipate having guests from academics, industry, and government provide their perspectives on the “soft” skills and other aspects of science that you do not learn in undergraduate, graduate, or postdoctoral training. *If any RRV members would like to volunteer as speakers in this seminar please contact Matthew Picklo.*

6. **Harmon Abrahamson presented a summary of the selected Governance Action of the ACS.** He asked for guidance from the committee with regard to the vote that he may cast for a petition under consideration.

7. **National Chemistry Olympiad.** Roy Garvey stressed the need to restart our involvement the National Chemistry Olympiad in 2013. Issues need to be resolved with respect to networking with high schools in the section and finding a coordinator.

8. **The reception for Dr. Darryl Ostercamp will be held Friday, October 12, 3 pm at the Knutson Center at Concordia College.** Dr. Ostercamp served on the campus of Concordia from 1960 to his retiring to Professor Emeritus in 2002. The reception is part of the Homecoming celebrations at Concordia but all those who knew Daryl are welcome to attend the reception where guests will have a chance to share stories and Daryl will also reflect on his long and illustrious career as an organic chemist. Messages from those unable to attend will also be shared so if you have something you would like to share, feel free to send them to us. For more information, contact Drew Rutherford at rutherf@cord.edu