

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of HIST  
April 1, 2001                      Spring National Meeting, San Diego, CA

The meeting started at 5:06pm.

1. **Minutes** for the August 20, 2000 meeting were accepted with minor corrections.

## 2. **Chair Report**

Richard expressed his appreciation and that of the rest of the executive committee to Steve Weininger for his service as Chair over the past two years.

Outstanding Paper Award: Two winners were announced as the award-winning paper had co-authors -- Helge Kragh and Malene Bach. Neither can attend the Fall National Meeting in Chicago, so Vera was instructed to mail the award plaques and checks to each. Possible CHF sponsorship of the \$150 in books part of the award was discussed, as the University of Pennsylvania Press declines to continue sponsorship. Leo Slater, Paul Buonnora, and Marty Saltzman are the current committee members. Next year Marty rotates off and a new member will rotate on.

A request was made and approved to change the designation for Chair of the committee from serving in the second year of appointment to the third year of appointment. That is, the following change should be made in the HIST Handbook with regard to the Outstanding Paper Award (see attached for context):

4. A committee member shall serve as chair of the committee during the ~~second~~ third year of their term of appointment. Responsibilities as chair shall include:

Dexter Award: Bill Smeaton was announced as the winner for 2001. Unfortunately, before the committee could notify him, Dr. Smeaton died. There was a discussion as to whether the Dexter Award could be conferred posthumously. Richard was asked to check with the ACS about their policy in such cases. [The general procedures from the *ACS Awards Booklet (Bulletin 7)* states that "Posthumous awards will be made only when knowledge of the recipient's death is received after the award committee's decision has been announced. Nominations of persons known to be deceased will not be accepted."]

Marty Saltzman is the symposium coordinator for the Fall National Meeting and Roger will contact him if there is any problem in proceeding with the symposium.

## 3. **Treas./Sec Report**

Elections: Vera reported on the need for an election. After discussion, the Committee appointed M. V. Orna to serve in the 2001 term. The table below is a summary of one possible pattern for the elections to enable the division to set up a two year election cycle. It was suggested that Harold Goldwhite (past-past-chair) and Steve Weininger (past-chair) be asked to serve as the nominating committee. They are to make a recommendation as to candidates and an election cycle as the next meeting.

<b>Elected in 2001</b>	<b>Elected in 2003</b>	<b>Elected in 2005</b>
<b>Chair</b> - 2003-2004 (serves as Chair-Elect 2002)		
<b>Chair-Elect</b> - 2003-2004 (serves as Chair 2005-2006)	<b>Chair-Elect</b> - 2005-2006 (serves as Chair 2007-2008)	<b>Chair-Elect</b> - 2007-2008 (serves as Chair 2009-2010)
<b>Sec/Treas</b> - 2003-2004	<b>Sec/Treas</b> - 2005-2006	<b>Sec/Treas</b> - 2007-2008
<b>Councilor</b> (MV) - 2003-2005		<b>Councilor</b> (MV) - 2006-2008
<b>Councilor</b> (BC) - 2002-2004	<b>Councilor</b> (BC) - 2005-2007	
<b>Alt. Councilor</b> - 2002-2004	<b>Alt. Councilor</b> - 2005-2007	

Financial Status: The Division finances remain stable, as we continue to be able to fund the Bulletin. It appears as though we will not be required to withdraw any money from the ACS Investment Account in 2001, which is a very healthy sign.

#### **4. Program Chair Report**

Roger attended the DOC meeting on Mar. 31 – voted to raise dues from \$40 to \$60; Roger noted that the DOC dues pays for soda and dinner for those attending the DOC meeting.

LCD projectors are available at this meeting, but that is not a given for each meeting site as it is negotiated with each site. They are supposed to be available for the Chicago meeting. Note that we should be careful that ACS will not assess this cost back to the divisions.

This meeting does not have a big schedule; Richard Rice's symposium and two general sessions.

Looking forward to the Fall National Meeting in Chicago: 1) Herb Pratt symposium on chemical bibliophiles – he intends to preside but is currently recovering from a stroke; 2) Richard's last part of his trilogy; 3) two full days for the Arch. Chem. Symposium; 4) Dexter Symposium; 5) Celebrating a Century of Chemistry – may need to be listed as presidential symposium in order to run as simultaneous program – 5 papers, including Jim Bohning's on the founding, the 25<sup>th</sup>, 50, 75<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary are covered in the other papers.

John Sharkey is planning to have an elaborate display for artifacts. A cachet will be issued for this meeting. John, Jim and Roy will be able to stamp the cachet. One co-sponsored symposium on anniversary of Div. of Organic Chemistry.

Orlando – Spring 2002: 1) Two sessions on chemical bibliophiles, as Herb will have a book published based on Chicago and Orlando symposium; 2) 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of AXE and Using History in teaching Chemistry – both cosponsored with CHED.

Boston - Fall 2002: 1) Another AXE symposium; 2) 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Chemical Caucus

Jim Bohning said he is trying to put together the HIST archive, so send material send to him

Successor to Roger – starting 2003 need new program chair// need someone to start in 2002 – Paul Buonnaro was suggested as a possible replacement.

The Exec. Comm. approved Roger's attendance at the Belmont meeting concerning PR.

Roger is now Lehigh Valley Councilor.

## 5. Bulletin Editor Report

Issue mailed out last Friday. Two-thirds of the issue is a memorial to Aaron Ihde; Bill Jensen served as guest editor and Alan Rocke summarized all students and their books. Jim Bohning summarized one oral history. Stan Tarbell died year before Ihde but had just one page in *Bulletin* with George Kaufman obit.

An Analysis of the *Bulletin* since 1994: 1) On basis on nationality of contributors – trend is toward non US. 82 US oriented but 28 non-US authors; 2) Library subscription are almost evenly divided between US and nonUS.; 3) Pagination changes depending on number of papers. 80, 96, 72, 64//divisible by 8.

*Chemical Intelligencer* has ceased publication. They had a very different mission than *Bulletin*, such as reporting current new items of interest, while our mission is historical record. An arrangement is set to place interviews in *Chemical Heritage*. The *Intelligencer's* subscription list was around 200 and it was very expensive. Springer-Verlag bought the name.

*Ambix* is being edited by someone other than Jerrilynn; it is the other journal of history of chemistry, but usually targeted for alchemy and usually longer articles;

Backlog of papers for the *Bulletin* is essentially two issues;

## 5. Councilor's Reports

MV – serving last year on N&E/ only allowed to serve six years; normal practice is to rotate onto some other Council committee;

Ben – appointed to DAC committee this year. He is on the divisional enhancement subcommittee and he will be looking at divisional annual reports and nominating for awards, etc. Ben is the official liaison to HIST from DAC.

Attila went before budget committee yesterday asking for \$300,000 for divisions and local sections for 2 years – presidential taskforce will decide on distribution; another taskforce will be looking at local section and divisions on bylaws and constitution changes; last taskforce will have input from DAC by June; whatever part of money goes to divisions, the simple allocation to each division (500) be raised to the average section allotment (3000), then distributed by membership count; this might help us to not to compete between divisions; 30% of divisions and 40% of local sections are operating at a deficit. So, some kind of financial relief may come.

Representation on council -- 80% from sections and 20% from divisions; this is historical number.

It was noted that the new National Historic Chemical Landmarks program brochure does not list HIST even once.

MV discussed the new enhancements to the Chemical Heritage Foundation website as educational tools.

CHF – possibility for establishing book prize; have joint committee choose book and award in appropriate venue. Suggested having a symposium on alternate meeting from Dexter; encourage people to pursue book length work on the history of chemistry and chemical technologies; circulate via email to executive committee and send comments back to Leo Slater. They are looking for a venue via HIST and for a HIST person to serve on the award committee.

## **6. New Business**

1. 2002 Dues – Hold the rates this year; Vera report back at the Fall Meeting on other divisional dues
2. CELL change – voted to support
3. Lecture society-wide by Dexter awardee – presidential event – usually evening, but popular lecture by the awardee
4. Contacted head of historical group of RSC – having reduced memberships for the other's members
5. website – keep up to date; Vera will report on this at the Fall Meeting.
6. Dexter Award – As information, in the minutes of the Aug. 20, 2000, meeting of the HIST Executive Committee, the following was reported:

**Dexter Award** - There was much discussion about the future of the Dexter Award. For the 2000 award plaque the name of the Dexter Co. has been removed and it is noted that the award is sponsored by the Sidney and Mildred Edelstein Foundation. Consensus of the committee is that HIST needs to start a campaign to support/endow the award. There was then more discussion on what the name of the award would become. MV Orna moved that HIST establish the Sidney M. Edelstein Award for Outstanding

Achievement in the History of Chemistry to be awarded by the person designated by the Edelstein Award Jury. Seconded by Paul Jones. Motion passed. It was decided that the Chair appoint a study committee to recommend criteria for the award and appointment of the committee members. The 2001 award will continue as this year. Present Dexter Award committee needs to be told that their work will terminate at a specific date. Fund raising for the award needs a person to act as chair. Ned Heindel was suggested as a possibility and Steve will contact him.

There was discussion of letter from Ned Heindel on this matter. After much debate and pending a conclusion on CHF participation in the process to establish the Edelstein Award, it was voted to put on hold establishment of guidelines to govern the award and funding the award.

Ned's opinion is that endowing this is almost impossible; so he looked into what CHF would do. The Committee directed Richard to have Steve and Ned discuss this and draft letters to the Edelstein Foundation and CHF asking for clarification of their possible participation in this award. The Edelstein Foundation seems to indicate they would continue to fund the award for foreseeable future. MV Orna also asked that we get clarification of CHF support of travel expenses for the symposium attendees. There was also more discussion of what the Dexter Award name should evolve into. Given the vote at the last meeting of this committee, it seemed to be a consensus that the name would become the Edelstein Award or possibly the Edelstein/Dexter Award, but that it would not continue as the Dexter Award now that the Dexter Corporation has withdrawn funding.

A Divisional Business meeting is at 8:15 am tomorrow.