

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of HIST August 20, 1995

The meeting was called to order at 5:15pm.

The minutes of the Anaheim meeting were accepted with emendation - see attached revised minutes of April 2, 1995 meeting.

1) Resignations from the Executive Committee and Appointment of New Members

a) Jim Bohning is now employed by the ACS News Service and by their rules, may no longer be active in the Division. He resigns his duties as Associate Editor of the Bulletin, his involvement with the Cachet program and the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Arnold Thackray attended this meeting as the CHF representative.

a2) John Servos has agreed to serve on the Dexter Award Committee.

b) Our current membership of 836 members entitles us to another Councilor whose term will be staggered with respect to that of our current Councilor, M. V. Orna. Ben Chastain and Albert Kirsch have agreed to run for the position. The loser will automatically become the alternate Councilor.

c) Anaheim meeting report: The big event for Anaheim was the Archaeological Symposium, which was very well attended and a resounding success. M. V. Orna's report is attached.

d) Chicago meeting report: The History of the Chicago Section symposium, the Edelstein symposium, and the HIST 75th Anniversary Dinner at Northwestern are the main events.

e) History of Chemical and Scientific Information Project: This is funded by Gene Garfield of the Institute for Scientific Information. There is currently a challenge grant with CHF which has to date resulted in about six oral histories and a book project about Crell's Journal.

2) Officer and Committee Reports

a) Secretary/Treasurer - Vera Mainz: The Treasurer reported on the current state of the investment account with Merrill Lynch, and her recommendation that this account be converted to cash, with half (\$20,000) re-invested in the ACS Investment Pool, and the rest held for expected expenses. The committee agreed with this plan.

The Treasurer requested and was given permission to contribute to the Divisional Officers Caucus (\$40/year for 1994 and 1995).

There was some discussion of whether or not to continue the Best Division Report award. This will be voted on at the next meeting.

b) Program Chair - Richard Rice: It was reported that there are no symposia scheduled for the New Orleans or Orlando meetings, and that there are no plans for symposia in the works. It was noted that there were several symposia at the New Orleans meeting (CHED - Using Historical Chemistry to Teach Chemistry, Women in Chemistry - Some Contemporary Issues; NUCL - Centenary of the Discovery of Radioactivity) that would have been good opportunities for co-sponsorship.

The discussion focused on the need to generate symposia, with suggestions of focusing on anniversaries, using the Chemical Landmark program as a focus, expanding the Dexter Award talk to a symposium, origins of chemistry departments, etc.

It was suggested that the Newsletter needs to grow and could be used as a focus for future symposia.

c) Nominations: The current nominating committee chair is Jim Traynham. He is looking for someone to take this job over, and noted that it is reasonable for the Secretary to take over election duty. The next chair will have a term of two years with ratification of the by-laws amendment. Harold Goldwhite agreed to be a candidate. The situation with regard to Councilors was reviewed in 1(c).

3) Old Business

a) Status of Wotiz lawsuit – The Division continues to work with the ACS Legal Counsel to resolve this issue.

b) Status of the Bulletin: Paul Jones has assumed editorship of the Bulletin. Marty Saltzman has offered to help next year when Marty will be on sabbatical. Paul has contacted a firm to do the page setup at a cost of <\$10.00/page.

The committee felt it was important to establish an editorial policy, including copyright forms, etc. We also agreed that the Editor of the Bulletin should have one trip to a national ACS meeting paid for by the Division.

Marty had a mock-up of the *Index to the History of Chemistry in the Journal of Chemical Education* for the committee to look at. It was suggested that he contact the J. Chem. Ed. Office to get clearance for the publication. Marty plans to send this out to the HIST membership in the fall, and it was agreed that the Division would pay for the costs of printing and mailing it.

c) Cachet program: Jim Bohning has severed his ties to the cachet program and John Starkey reported that he no longer wishes to continue, either. The committee agreed to stop the program, although the Presidential series would be continued. It was noted that since the basic reason we shared booth costs (half-and-half) with CHF was to sell the cachets, discontinuance of the cachet program means we no longer need to continue with the booth. CHF (Arnold Thackray) was so informed.

4) New Business

a) Councilor Report: Ben Chastain reported that an International Chemistry Celebration is planned for 1999, to be modeled on National Chemistry Week. National Chemical Landmarks Program has four designated Landmarks this year, and plans for three more by next April. It was noted that a one-day symposium on the currently designated Landmarks is an opportunity for a symposium at New Orleans or Orlando.

b) A Web page for the Division was discussed and it was agreed that the Secretary should pursue setting one up.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

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July 6, 1995

To: Division of the History of Chemistry, ACS
From: Mary Virginia Orna
Re: Report on the Archaeological Chemistry Symposium, Anaheim, CA

1. The Pedagogical Symposium. The pedagogical symposium took place on Sunday, April 2 from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. It was attended by about 300 persons throughout the afternoon, many of whom were high school teachers and students (many of whom were taking notes assiduously). The scheduled speakers were Stanley Ambrose, Robert Hedges, Svante Pääbo and Peter Gill. Due to a last minute summons to testify in court, Peter Gill was unable to attend, but the other three speakers presented an elegant and exciting program which included using DNA research to solve contemporary ecological and environmental problems. The symposium was videotaped and currently, the transcripts of the videotaping are in the hands of the speakers for comment and correction. As soon as they are returned, a summary of these talks will be prepared for publication in either/or *Chemunity News* and the *Journal of Chemical Education*.

2. The Technical Program. Almost fifty papers in every area of archaeological chemistry were presented over the course of the following three days. The areas included fibers, colorants, bone and connective tissue, DNA analysis, organic residues, inorganic artifacts, radiocarbon dating and the archaeological chemistry of the pre-Columbian New World. Attendance throughout the symposium was about 60-65 persons at each of the sessions.

3. The Symposium Volume. Approximately 30 of the papers from the technical program were submitted for inclusion in the symposium volume. These papers have already gone through one review and are in the process of being revised and reviewed again, where necessary. We expect to meet our deadline of October 15 for submission of the completed manuscript to ACS for publication in the ACS Symposium Series.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Division of the History of Chemistry for its sponsorship of this symposium. Thank you for making this exciting area of chemistry available to so many through your generous support.



LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

Department of Chemistry

December 1, 1995

Professor Vera V. Mainz, Secretary of HIST
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
School of Chemical Sciences
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Urbana, IL 61801
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Dear Vera:

This letter is my report on the HIST election for 1996 officers.

Total number of ballots received by 12/1/95: 193 (27% return)

CHAIRMAN-ELECT		SECRETARY	
H. Goldwhite	105 (54%)	V. V. Mainz	180 (93%)
J. Borchardt	86	A. Goldwhite	1
Herb. Pratt	1	Blank	12
Blank	1		

TREASURER		COUNCILOR	
V. V. Mainz	175 (91%)	A. S. Kirsch	84
J. Wotiz	1	B. Chastain	106 (55%)
Blank	17	Blank	2
		Invalid (two Xs)	1

It is easy for a ballot counter to get the impression that a significant number of HIST voters would be poor experimentalists, because they do not follow directions such as "Mark X" and "Detach your marked ballot".

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

James G. Traynham

cc: M. D. Saltzman