

Minutes of the HIST Executive Committee Meeting – New Orleans, LA  
23Mar2003

Attending: Vera Mainz, Jeff Seeman, Mary Virginia Orna, Ben Chastain, Roger Egolf, Paul R. Jones, Carmen Giunta, David E. Lewis

Started at 5:30pm

1. Minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. Jeff wanted to add to the August minutes that no criteria for Edelstein. Add names to clarify who they are – like Jim Embrey. Approved with minor corrections.

2. Reports

a) Chair:

Both Edelstein and Outstanding Paper Committees have named awardees: Dr. David Knight at Durham (in the Dept. of Philosophy), for the Edelstein Award for 2003, and Vladimir Karpenko, Prague, for the Outstanding Paper Award for 2002.

The Chair needs to appoint someone new to the Edelstein Award panel as Sy Mauskopf is rotating off. Suggestions were William Brock and David Knight. Jeff Seeman discussed the matter of balance for the award, perhaps in terms of setting criteria for alternating between historians and chemists winning the award.

One member is rotating off the Outstanding Paper committee and the person was going to rotate to chair has asked to be relieved of his committee duties. Paul Schubert is the person who cannot serve as chair. David Lewis asked for suggestions. Suggestions: Mordecai Rubin and Vladimir Karpenko. People serving as members of this committee receive copies of the Bulletin. ??Other suggestions: Richard Rice, Marty Saltzman, and Alfred Bader.

b) Secretary/Treasurer

Copies of the 2002 Annual Report were distributed electronically. HIST submitted it's annual report to the ACS in a timely fashion.

Univ. of Michigan and HIST are attempting to straighten out our account. This account was set up when Paul Jones moved the *Bulletin* editorial office to Michigan. The Michigan Business Office is still trying to come to grips with what the details. Neither Paul Jones nor Vera Mainz believe there are any large outstanding liabilities.

Mrs. Barish will furnish the \$3500 Edelstein award and David Lewis will ask David Brock about the CHF support for Edelstein Symposium travel support.

David Lewis, Richard Rice and Vera Mainz have been working on updating the website.

Jeff Seeman suggested that HIST think about development work with regard to Edelstein family. For example, send a copy of the *Bulletin* to Mrs. Barish, especially the ones that feature the Edelstein Award address. ??Most people think we should let this stand. A point was made that the current winners should be on the HIST website. Another suggestion was that when the Chair sends the announcement of Edelstein Award winners to C&E News, a copy of this announcement should be sent to Mrs. Barish.

#### c) Program Chair

The New Orleans meeting is light, only 19 papers. Three general papers. Without the co-sponsored symposium with Environmental and non-chemists, we would be in trouble.

It was noted that guest registration for non-chemists has usually been covered by HIST. It was \$35 then went up to \$65 last year. This year it went up to \$70/person. Consensus was that HIST should continue to cover this.

Fall 2003 - New York – many symposia, including Chromatography (Seeman).  
See Abstracts for complete list.

Spring 2004 - Anaheim – History of Alpha Chi Sigma (one a year in the spring)

Fall 2004 - Philadelphia - Multi-day Priestley symposium (Bohning); CHF also involved Edelstein Award Symposium

Mary Virginia Orna suggested a possible symposium with the Chem. Techn. Division – 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2004 // 50 years of chemical technology

??Jodi Weiseman – Educ. Div. of ACS Staff.

I&EC Division – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Toxicology Division Anniversary.

Sci-Mix Rules – The ACS will hold all Divisions to 10% rule in the future, i.e., only 10% of oral papers can be presented in Sci-Mix.

Roger Egolf is now in DAC and on the meetings subcommittee of DAC. Meetings people are now considering limiting the number of papers and posters that can be presented at National Meetings.

Roger Egolf noted that as there are more and more electronic presentations it would be a good idea for HIST to purchase a cheap pc laptop for use during the meeting instead of renting. Consensus is that Roger should buy a cheap laptop. Roger also noted that after this year 35 mm slide projectors will be extra cost and will not be automatically provided. The rule should be that people bring disk or overheads; if they want a slide projector they may have to pay all or part of the rental cost. We encouraged Roger to start warning people now.

Roger Egolf attended PC2 and was on a panel to give program chair hints.

Jeff Seeman is developing joint symposia, where the customers are the other divisions. Possibilities:

- 1) Majorie Caserio – 50 years of graduate education in chemistry. Putting together a strong Com. Sci request.
- 2) Dan Armstrong – 100 years of chromatography. Analytical division volunteered to give 50% of full day symposium - \$3400. Budget looks like \$5-6000. Jeff is putting together a proposal to Petroleum Research Fund (PRF) to pay for 1-2 foreign speakers. Dan's idea is to identify topics and pair a senior person with current state of the art. Jeff thought about running from first to last.

It is important that the sponsoring organization (HIST) put up some money or Com Sci and PRF will not fund requests.

Jeff asked HIST for commitment to the Chromatography Symposium. Mary Virginia Orna suggested that we pledge much more and seek the money elsewhere. Consensus was a \$500 commitment.

Mary Virginia Orna asked about publishing these symposia as ebooks via our websites. Maybe at least their graphics with paragraph captions. Another discussion went around about standard permission and copyright forms.

d) Bulletin Editor *Bulletin* 28(1) has Edelstein award address. Paul Jones noted that four papers were presented at the symposium, all were submitted but only two made it in. Two were sent back for revision and Paul doesn't know if they will come back or not.

As to the *Bulletin*, several papers are in the pipeline, and there are enough for two issues a year, but probably not enough for three issues a year.

Problems: Sometimes authors just won't revise, keeping up with indexing, problems with subscriptions this year because of Faxon bankruptcy. Vera Mainz paid for 6 former Faxon subscriptions on a one-time basis.

### 3. New Business

a) Council Action Items. Mary Virginia Orna and Ben Chastain requested instruction on how to vote on the issue of how funding is distributed. If the current proposition passes it would change HIST funding from ~ \$3k to ~ \$11K for 4 years. Instruction – vote for! Temporary assessment phased in on dues 2-4-6-which will fall back when setup. A motion was made to encourage our councilors to vote in the affirmative on the motion on funding for sections and division and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Paul Jones requested that the Executive Committee start long term planning for next editor of the *Bulletin*. One option to consider is another editor. The structure of the

*Bulletin* is such that in the past there were a few more people that were loosely advisory in the beginning. Paul wants continuing development of a network in identifying people to review (both articles and books) and authors for papers. He doesn't have problems with numbers of papers coming in, but it might be useful to have an assistant editor who can help with the reviewing stage. He has an Editorial advisory board but no assistant editor. Another need is people for book reviewers. He would value additional help in doing these things.

Jeff Seeman noted that all of us should come up with a short list of people for these needs. There are historians of chemistry and chemists who are interested in history, so maybe the editorial staff should have a mix.

We need to find list of all departments of teaching history of chemistry or history of science. Ask Peter Ramberg if he has finished gathering the names of these groups. We would then use this list to gift subscriptions to the *Bulletin*. Should be people that understand the culture of the division.

c) Outreach -- Draft of Mar. 10, 2003 by Jeff Seeman

Strategy 1. Tactics to bring in more active people. Useful to commit ourselves to bring in one active person / year. By active, he means set up a list of well-defined tasks and find someone to do that task. Meaningful assignment but it is limited.

Make a web-based brochure so people can print them themselves and hand out when needed.