

**HIST Executive Committee Meeting, March 22, 2015**  
Sheraton Denver Downtown, Director's Row F, Denver, CO

**Attending: Vera Mainz, Mary Virginia Orna, Dan Rabinovitch, Ron Brashear, Carmen Giunta, Roger Egolf, Seth Rasmussen, Joe Jeffers, Janan Hayes, Gary Patterson**

**Guests:** Tom Strom

**AGENDA**

Started 5:15pm

1) **Welcome and announcements**, Gary Patterson

Nick Tsarevsky (Assistant Program Chair) and John Sharkey (HIST Archivist) will not be able to attend. Gary noted that all those who write symposium volumes based on HIST symposia help the Division, as royalties come to the Division. Mary Virginia stated that the proceeds of the Pimentel Award Symposium volume would be split between ChemSource Inc and HIST, 50/50, as they gave monetary support to the symposium.

2) **Secretary-Treasurer's Report**, Vera Mainz

- a. Minutes of the August 10, 2014, Executive Committee meeting were approved via email vote on January 30, 2015.
- b. A new member needs to be appointed to both the HIST Award committee and the Outstanding Paper Award - see Awards subcommittee report.
- c. Vera made a request that Seth add a HIST general business meeting to the program for Boston to fulfill the minimum once-a-year requirement for an open general business meeting. Seth agreed to take care of this request.
- d. In terms of reporting, the HIST funds in the Vanguard Funds are all allocated to the HIST Award Endowment Fund. The return on investment was 6% in 2014. See the summary below. I received the last donation from Joe Lambert in May 2014.
- d) In a general way HIST is doing well. There is \$91,468.50 of unobligated funds as of February 25, 2015. There was some discussion on the HIST dues for the coming year. A motion was made and seconded to keep the dues at the 2015 level. The motion passes unanimously.
- e) The Merrill Lynch money market account was closed in February 2015. A new account was opened at Busey Bank in Urbana, IL, in the first week of February 2015. Both current HIST councilors, Mary Virginia Orna and Roger Egolf, will have signature access to this account, along with the Secretary/Treasurer.
- f) An advertisement was placed in CEN, 8Dec2014, see attached. That advertisement offered a free copy of *The Lost Elements* plus a free year's membership in HIST to those who emailed or mailed the Treasurer with a request and mentioned OUP\_FONTANI (112 to date). We also made the same offer to the students who received copies via requests at the Dallas ACS meeting, Spring 2014, and other requests received via Mary Virginia Orna. The total number of new HIST members from the book giveaway, as of January 26, 2015, is 178. That broke down as:

136 ACS members (North America) = \$2720 in dues (at \$20 each)  
 2 ACS members (outside North America)=\$60 in dues (at \$30 each)  
 40 division affiliates (North America)= \$1000 in dues (at \$25 each)  
 TOTAL DUES paid to HIST - \$3780 (That is, these funds were allocated from the Fontani Fund and Lost Elements IPG to the HIST General Funds.)

Of these, ACS identifies 14 as student members (undergraduates) and 13 as regular member student (I believe that indicates a grad student). It is currently not known how many of the division affiliates are students, as ACS didn't have that information. However, I suspect perhaps 5, as five of the names collected at Dallas have status as division affiliates, 1 regular member, 7 regular member students, and 12 student members undergraduate. Requests from the OUP\_FONTANI offer continue to come in. There are currently 9 books left to fulfill these requests. Once those are sent out, that will be all. The Fontani Book Fund paid for the books, shipping, and membership dues. The Lost Elements IPG paid for the books, shipping and membership dues for those identified as student members to date

- g. Treasurer's Report. The 2014 annual reports, both the Treasurer's Report and the Administrative Report were filed prior to Feb. 15, 2015, as required by the ACS. Both reports have been posted on the HIST website. The Quicken summary of income/expense for 2015 to date is attached and is two documents, one the Merrill Lynch account (now closed) and the current Busey Bank account. Vera asked the Division to consider putting part of our funds into the Vanguard Funds where at least it would earn additional interest.

**TOTAL OBLIGATED FUNDS as of  
2/23/2015**

Citations	\$	1,491.36
Archives IPGA + James J. Bohning Memorial Fund	\$	2,963.28
StopGap Funding	\$	3,800.00
Citations Travel	\$	4,428.16
MVO Nat Inv IPGA	\$	535.48
Past Pres IPGA	\$	715.14
SERMACS IPGA	\$	2,222.30
HIST Award (Contributions + Dividends)	\$	3,014.58
See and Be Seen	\$	500.00
Fontani Book Fund	\$	1,172.56
Chemical Technology in Antiquity Spr2015 Denver	\$	1,000.00
Pimentel Award Symposium in the Division of Chemical Education Spr2015 Denver	\$	1,000.00
Past Pres Boston Fall2015 - Henry Hill	\$	500.00
HIST Award Symp Boston Fall2015 - registration	\$	500.00
Fifty years of Innovation: The Legacy of the Westheimer Report Boston Fall2015	\$	1,000.00
	<b>\$</b>	<b>23,842.86</b>

Vanguard Fund - HIST Match	\$	30,150.50
Vanguard Fund - Lambert 2012 + 2013 + 2014	\$	30,000.00
<b>TOTAL Endowment</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>60,150.50</b>

BANK BALANCE as of 2/25/2015	\$	115,311.36
Total checks not cleared	\$	-
Deposits not cleared	\$	-
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>115,311.36</b>

<b>TOTAL UNOBLIGATED FUNDS as of 2/23/2015</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>91,468.50</b>
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### HIST Award Summary

#### Dividends

<b>2011-2012</b>	\$	1,543.76	
<b>2013</b>	\$	3,813.53	
<b>2014</b>	\$	3,749.04	6%

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Difference</b>
	\$		
<b>2013</b>	6,675.33	\$ (6,882.90)	\$ (207.57)
	\$		
<b>2014</b>	6,119.04	\$ (4,440.65)	\$ 1,678.39
	\$		
<b>2015</b>	1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
			\$ 2,970.82

**Available** \$ 4,514.58

- 3) **Report from Program Chair**, Seth Rasmussen, see attached Future Schedule.
- a) Programming here looking good, two more full days ahead. For Boston we may be a little light in programming as the Edwin Land symposium was pulled. The organizers wanted it open to the public, which can't happen if part of the ACS meeting. It will now be the Friday before the conference as they wanted it to be open to the public. The organizers will submit a poster for Sci-Mix. We are still looking for a tutorial topic for Boston. Vera has heard of a study of one NIH grant which was tracked through its lifetime, including drug innovation, etc. This would be a good match to the meeting theme, but it all depends upon when or if her source gets back to her in a timely matter. Currently five general papers have been submitted and will be scheduled for Monday afternoon with the Henry Hill symposium scheduled for Monday morning. If we get enough for two full sessions, we will schedule them for Sunday. The Westheimer Report Legacy

symposium is set for Tuesday morning and the HIST Award symposium for Tuesday afternoon.

- b) Jan had publicity handouts for the Henry Hill symposium for Boston and these were handed out. The Henry Hill symposium will be a Presidential event. The reception will cost about \$11K, with support coming from a variety of sources, including PRES. Jan has asked that the funds remaining in the past president's IPG account be used toward the reception and also asked that the HIST support of \$500 go to the reception. A motion was made, seconded and passed to have the money used in that way. Mary Virginia suggested that the symposium be nominated for a ChemLuminary Award, as it shows a lot of cooperation between divisions and many other entities within the ACS. The consensus is that it should be nominated.
- c) Pacifichem abstracts need to be in by April 3rd. Trevor Levere has backed out due to health issues, so Seth is looking for one more speaker, either invited or contributed, to maintain our level of support. We should have 2 invited speaker registrations covered, and after the fact we can submit reimbursements invited speakers only for travel because the amount available for this purpose is based upon what the conference makes. Roger asked how the money was being handled.
- d) San Diego - Seth asked Tom how many speakers he would have, and he hopes for at least 12 talks (7 committed), and would like 1-1/2 days. Gary has a 1/2 day, and there is 1/2 day general session. We don't want to extend programming into Wednesday, so there is no room for past presidents for San Diego. Dan and Nick would like to get a symposium in for San Diego or Philadelphia but which depends upon where there would be space in the schedule.
- e) Philadelphia - We are looking at adding 1/2 day for Tues AM. Gary is getting speakers slowly for his symposium on Chemistry in America. HIST Award will be a 1/2 day Tuesday afternoon, so Jan should start planning for a past presidents symposium for Tuesday morning.
- f) MAPS update - The interface for speakers is a huge improvement but the interface for program officers is non-existent as person who was taking care of this at ACS quit unexpectedly. None of the program chairs are happy. There were lots of mistakes in printed versions of the program, e.g.; none of the co-sponsors are listed in either on-line or printed versions and the HIST Executive committee meeting is not listed in the governance list. There will be a Tuesday presentation at the Division caucus, but there are lots of problems. Seth is pushing for program chairs having the same access as the ACS access person. Roger had some information from DAC as they were given a MAPS update and they blasted the ACS person presenting the report. There is supposed to be an improvement for the ACS side. MAPS is what you see when you submit an abstract. Symposium organizer might believe they can make changes via MAPS, but they are only entering data which the ACS person is putting up.
- g) The current version of the newsletter shows a huge revamp. The consensus is that Seth has done a great job on the re-design. Vera and Seth need to discuss how to keep format constant.

- h) HIST Facebook - Our current likes is over 1000 on facebook. HIST now has one of the largest following on a facebook page of any of the other ACS divisions.
  - i) At the Central Great Lakes Regional (CGLR) meeting in May 2015, Seth is running a 1/2 day HIST symposium and asked for \$500 in support. The motion to provide this support was made, seconded and passed. Seth will be the program chair for the CGLR meeting in 2017.
  - j) WRM - Jan is organizing a HIST 1/2 day symposium for WRM 2015 and asked for \$500 support. The motion was made, seconded and passed. WRM will take place in late October.
- 4) **Report from Councilors**, Mary Virginia Orna and Roger Egolf, see attached report.
- a) Mary Virginia - What goes into the newsletter as the councilor report is an edited version of the talking points from the Council meeting. Those items that would not be of interest to HIST members is omitted. Mary Virginia is now a full member of LSAC, serving the first year of a two year term. One of her jobs is to interact with different local sections and review them. She can look at their reports and commend their actions that are history related, and if none, make suggestions to add some history segments. She is reviewing four local sections. NORM is being run by the Idaho local section. Mary Virginia will have some people at NORM and might be able to include some HIST activities. She is also reviewing the Upper Ohio Valley, Rock River, and Wisconsin. Carmen asked Mary Virginia to use her influence to recommend possible NHCL nominations from the local sections. Seth and Gary had lunch with Lindblom (NHCL) and reiterated their support, including supplying active members of NCHL.
  - b) Roger - He continues for another 2 years on DAC (this is his sixth year). Roger is co-chairing governance and report subcommittee, which reviews annual reports. He could do similar things in divisions as Mary Virginia noted in LSAC. Roger noted that Jeff Seeman's IPG was approved for \$7500. Those who receive IPG funds will also start making posters, possibly for Sci-Mix. DAC got an update without any real information, on the upcoming reapportion of councilors. They weren't told which divisions going up or down, but a shake-up going on, esp. with the addition of Catalysis as a full division. Catalysis is eligible for 4 seats, so 8 seats being lost by current Divisions and 8 being gained. Roger believes that HIST will go down to one councilor. Mary Virginia noted this likely doesn't seem to count the new members for HIST. Vera said she added new members as they came in, but whether they are part of the count depends upon when the count was made. DAC talked about petitions and voted unanimously as opposed to the petition on removal of members as currently written as it removes current procedure without having a new procedure to replace it. DAC wants the petition withdrawn, have a new procedure developed as part of the petition, and then bring it back.
- 5) **Report from Chair-Elect**, Ron Brashear
- Ron stated that he was excited to be elected as chair-elect of HIST. He is volunteering in general to help Gary. Going forward, and he is pushing this at CHF, to have more concentration on sources of chemistry, not only giving the historical narrative but how we

find sources, how we preserve sources, how we use sources, and how we integrate them. ACS has many of the people who are making history/sources. HIST is well placed to help make folks more aware of the issue.

- 6) **Report from Past Chair**, Ned Heindel, no report.
- 7) **Report from the HIST Awards Subcommittee**
  - a. HIST Award 2015 Award. The Jury Committee for the 2016 award has selected Christoph Meinel from Regensburg. Prof. Meinel is retired but very connected to the world-wide group of historian. Gary noted that his favorite student is Carsten Reinhardt at CHF. A great symposium has been planned, and almost all abstracts have been submitted. Alan Rocke was the nominator and organizer of the symposium.
  - b. Going forward, we don't want just former winners of HIST Award to be the members of the Jury committee. Changes have been suggested in the SOP, a draft of which has been circulated, see attached. (Please note that changes suggested below are highlighted in **YELLOW** to distinguish from previous changes.) The major points of change include increasing the size of the Jury committee from 3 to 5, make the chair be the HIST past-chair, and the fifth member be a very active HIST member. Mary Virginia suggested that this fifth member not be a member of Executive Committee. There was agreement that this language should be added to the SOP. For the next 2 years, our past-chair, Ned Heindel has agreed to serve. Mary Virginia recommended that Joe Gal would be a great fifth member and there was a general consensus that he would be a good person. The last three HIST Awards have raised the awareness of the award in the chemical historian community. Carmen asked for an addition to the SOP and asked to add a statement that the winner submit a paper to the *Bulletin*. The Sec/Treas would add to the award notification a statement to this effect. A motion was made to approve the new SOP, seconded, and passed unanimously.
  - c. Outstanding Paper Award - 2014 Award. The committee is working and is waiting for a last vote. The *Bulletin* publication schedule has slowed their work. The historian will produce biography and the hope is that the winner can be feted at the HIST Award Dinner in Boston.
  - d. CCB Award update - Jeff Seeman's report is attached. The awards continue to receive nominations and those who receive them continue to really like them. HIST did nominate the CCB for an International ChemLuminary award.
- 8) **Report from Archivist**, John Sharkey; report attached
- 9) **Report from *Bulletin* Editor**, Carmen Giunta

Submissions continue coming in. Carmen brought a few copies of volume 39(2) to the meeting, but because of all the new members not many left. Ron has agreed to serve as book review editor. Vera is also helping on some editorial tasks. Volume 40(1, 2) should be in this calendar year. Expenses have been sent to Vera. Volume 39(2) cost more because of a larger print run size and individual mailing moved to 1st class. Volume 40(1) is expected to go to the printer in May. Gary said that the *Bulletin* is

gaining visibility outside the ACS, and being seen as a good place to publish. Current membership is 884, 101 (11.4%) from outside the US.

**10) Report from Historian, Gary Patterson, see attached report.**

- a) Gary has been collaborating with PHYS, CHED, and the American Association for Chemistry Teachers (AACT), to put together a proposal for a workshop to be held in Philadelphia (Fall 2016 ACS meeting), on using the history of chemistry in a high school setting. It is ready to be submitted for an IPG and is due in July. The plan is to do this on the Saturday before the meeting at CHF and Sunday will be a CHED High School Day (special registration fee for Sunday only for these attendees). CHED/HIST were started as divisions at the same time when history was assumed to be part of teaching. The two divisions have grown apart. Gary has not been getting much response from the CHED chair so far. Mary Virginia suggested Gary contact the incoming chair of CHED, Cathy Middlecamp. If successful, the event will make HIST money, and then will run every year with charges covering expenses. The first time IPG money will be used to support it. Gary has recruited people to give talks on ancient, inorganic, physical, and organic chemistry. Gary will do the introduction. After each talk, they will break into groups, with one member of the teaching team and 5 attendees and talk about how to use the material in teaching. Chair of PHYS will also be there. A lot of pre-material has been prepared.
- b) A separate issue was raised by Vera. There is currently no HIST presence in the ACS webinar program. This could be a half-hour program for a webinar. Mary Virginia hoped it performs well so it can be submitted for a ChemLuminary nomination.

**11) Report from the Alternate Councilors, Art Greenberg and Joe Jeffers**

- a) MPPG - See attached report on themes. Thirty-three symposia were organized on the theme for Denver. In contrast, only 4 symposia, including Roger's, are designated as MPPG thematic symposia in Boston. MPPG spent \$26,500 for symposia in Denver. Roger will receive \$5000 from MPPG and \$500 from HIST for his upcoming symposium in Boston. There are some changes in the themes, so please see the attachment for updates. Roger asked if there was any discussion of what the Philadelphia theme will really mean and Joe reported there was a lot of discussion on it. They are working on that. Roger said the problem for him is that until this is clarified it is hard to plan for relevant symposia.
- b) Mary Virginia had a comment on meeting themes. Tom Gilbert (member of the ACS Board) came to the LSAC meeting and told them that meetings are not returning the money that they used to. Each meeting since 2008 has been running deficit, as high as 13.4%. One of the reasons for the increase is the cost of technology and audio-visual (AV). If you remove those expenses from the expense roster, other expenses have stayed fairly even. A big problem is negotiations with the hotels who are supplying the medium. Boston is not budging on costs, so Boston may move to Atlanta. That might change the meeting theme. They also plan to increase the meeting registration fee for \$15/year or \$7.50 per meeting to deal with this. Roger said there is a groundswell

against the fee increase, partly in reaction to the proposed technology changes. In DAC that they may move to electronic poster boards, but this is not cost effective. Roger also pointed out that the losses discussed are only when considering the technical program as an entity separate from the Exposition. Someone in ACS has decided to fund technical program and the Expo separately and not use Expo profits to fund technical program. Numbers on benchmark data presented at LSAC and DAC is stacked against educational societies to make it more obvious that rates should be increased. Roger and Mary Virginia both believe this should be discussed at Council, even if it needs to be brought up from the floor. This discussion shows the advantage to having councilors, especially on the committees. Joe noted that no one will make money on the Expo if no one comes to technical meeting. Seth said it needs to be brought up again that ACS should consider dropping the requirement for Thursday programming. ORGN has a big social event on Wednesday night to keep people here through Wednesday night but no programming for Thursday.

#### 12) OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Joe Jeffers commented that we invested in strategic planning 7 years ago but don't know what we did. Vera said she never received a copy of the reports. She is aware that booklets were produced but she never received a copy of them.

#### 13) NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Report "Lost Elements: The Shadow Side of Discovery,"** Mary Virginia Orna; Mary Virginia noted that the book was not ready for the San Francisco meeting, but eventually produced a nice book. The authors have gotten some attention as they were reviewed positively in Nature, the Boston Globe did a full page article by making their own periodic table culled out of the book, and they were received an extremely complementary in the London Times (Higher Education Supplement). There has been nothing from CEN or JChemEd. Carmen and Ron noted they already have a review ready for the *Bulletin*. The increase in membership discussed above is due to Marco Fontani who raised money (nominally for translation, but that fee was waived). So they used a lot for the San Francisco symposium and also purchased copies of book at 50% discount and sent copy of book when requested. We also decided to pay for a one year membership in HIST. For this service, Mary Virginia proposed that we keep enough remainder funds in the Fontani Fund to pay for Marco Fontani's HIST membership for ten years out of those funds, then review that status when the funds run out, say in ten years. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. Vera will draft a letter to Marco that Mary Virginia will translate to Italian to set out the terms.
- b) The symposium volume for the *Science History Study Tour* is ready in e-version and the hard copy might be available now. Mary Virginia also said that the symposium on Tuesday (Pimentel Award winner) will become a symposium volume.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm



## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: CEN Advertisement for *Lost Elements*

Appendix 2: Quicken Summary, Income/Expenses to date

Appendix 3: Future Symposia Schedule

Appendix 4: Councilors' Report from San Francisco

Appendix 5: HIST Award SOP

Appendix 6: Citation for Chemical Breakthrough Award Report

Appendix 7: Report from the Archivist

a) Outline

b) Finder's Guide

Appendix 8: Historian's Report

Appendix 9: Report from MPPG - Thematic Programming