

CEI Meeting Spring 2020 Working Minutes

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Chris Avery, Kate Aubrecht, Ed Brush, Jurgen Exner, Elise Fox, Naomi Gevaerd De Souza, Robert Giraud, Carol Henry, Brett Howard, Katie Hunt, Keisuke Ikehata, Anastasia Ilgen, John Jayne, Mike Matthews, Faye McNeill, Cathy Middlecamp, Sara Orski, Melissa Pasquinelli, Keith Peterman, Brian Salvatore, Pete Smith, Jen Tanir, Jane Wissinger, Michelle Brann, Susan Shih, Ray Garant, Carl Maxwell, Jenny MacKellar,

Chris called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm

Chris laid out the ground rules for discussions and voting during the videoconference.

The new committee members introduced themselves.

Public Policy Statement Approvals and Updates

- The new Critical Materials policy statement was presented and discussed. The committee voted to approve the statement: 21 yes, 0 no
- Carl reported that a team, led by Jillian Goldfarb, has begun reviewing the sustainability policy statement.

Major Project Updates

- Plastics – Sara Orski reported that:
 - The task force discussed a new scope for the project: How can ACS and CEI work to help mitigate the challenge of ocean plastics?
 - Discussion focused on systems analysis and interagency collaboration and language
 - There was discussion of amplification of awareness and collaborations through unit partners
- Sustainable Development Goals – Ed Brush reported that:
 - There is connection of the SDGs to the Sustainability Policy Statement, which is in progress.
 - The Committee should consider the specific things that CEI has control over and how they interface with the SDGs: ChemLuminary, minigrants, etc.
- Sustainability National Meeting Theme – Jane Wissinger updated the committee on the team's work on planning for the Fall 2022 meeting.

Grants and Awards Approvals – Mike Matthews

- Mike presented the finalists for the 2020 Local Section Minigrants (**Secretary's Note, it was subsequently determined that these grants would be voided if the activities were cancelled as a result of cancelled regional meetings.**)
 - Colorado and Rochester
 - The awards committee recommended that the Colorado Section receive \$500
 - The vote was 20 yes to 0 no.

- The awards committee also recommended that the Rochester Section receive \$500
 - The vote was 20 yes to 0 no.
- Mike presented the finalists for the 2020 ChemLuminary Award
 - The committee pick three finalists from eight applications. The three finalists are the Chemical Society of Washington, the Indiana Section, and the North Carolina Section.
 - The vote was 16 yes to 0 no with the following recorded abstentions: Chris Avery, Sara Orski, Keisuke Ikehata, Melissa Pasquinelli, and Jen Tanir.
 - The committee recommended The Chemical Society of Washington for the ChemLuminary Award.
 - The vote was 15 yes to 0 no with the following recorded abstentions: Chris Avery, Sara Orski, Keisuke Ikehata, Melissa Pasquinelli, and Jen Tanir
 - There was discussion about the appearance of a conflict of interest due to Chris being CEI chair and a member of The Chemical Society of Washington. Chris will work with the ChemLuminary organizers to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest.

Report from EAC – Carl Maxwell

- Carl updated the committee on these recent actions:
 - EPA finalizes auto efficiency rule
 - EPA delays “Secret Science” Rule
 - Congressional Review Act
 - May 20th date for future Congress striking down acts
 - Sustainable Chemistry R&D bill passed in the House and the Senate version was voted out of committee.
 - Katherine Lemos confirmed to chemical safety board
 - CFATS extended to July 23
 - ACS active on multiple R&D bills
 - He extraction
 - Chemical safety board
- Kate asked if the EPA nonenforcement of regulations is a big deal.
 - Carl reported that we don’t yet know.
- Naomi asked about clarification between the Clean Water Act and Waters of the US (WOTUS).
 - Carl reported that what is considered a navigable waterway determines what is covered under Clean Water Act. WOTUS was repealed by the current Administration.

Report from GCI – David Constable

- David made these reports:
 - GC&E conference status is undetermined. It is possible that it will be converted to a virtual meeting.

- There were over 40 nominations for Green Chemistry Challenge Awards
 - June award ceremony has been postponed
- There is a new Heh-Won Chang Ph.D. Fellowship in Green Chemistry
- The GCI's new program to support green chemistry educational resources was approved for three years of funding from the ACS.
 - Year 1 will involve the development of a resource evaluation rubric

Report from ConC – Jetty Duffy-Matzner

- Jetty told the committee members that we need to fill out a new online committee preference form.

The committee votes to approve minutes of the Fall 2019 CEI meeting – 20 yes to 0 no with the recorded abstention from Jen Tanir.

Open Floor Discussion

- Carol asked if CEI could do anything to honor Chuck Kolb?
 - John Jayne to send information to the committee on ongoing plans.
- Update on Tony Noce – Chris reported that he had lunch with Tony a few months ago. Tony's recovery has been rough. He has not yet returned to work. **(Secretary's note: Tony passed away April 21, 2020. Members of the ACS and CEI community met for a virtual toast to Tony on May 5, 2020.)**
- Naomi asked if CEI could contribute to alleviating the COVID-19 crisis.
 - Chris encouraged the committee members to sit with the question and think about the future of CEI work.
- Ray reminded committee that a request input from the Executive Vice President for Membership on what ACS should focus on. Committee members are asked to copy Ray on any input related to CEI.
- Carl asked the committee to send him examples of impacted research and funding delays to pass along to Health Science Committee.

Adjourn