

**VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

March 7, 1993

Old Dominion University

Present: Golde Holtzman (President), James P. O'Brien (President-Elect), Gerald Taylor, Jr. (Past President), Richard Brandt (Past Past President), Michael Bass (Past Past Past President; Chairman, Nominations and Election Committee), Lisa Alty (Secretary), Ralph P. Eckerlin (Treasurer), Blanton M. Bruner (Exec. Secretary/Treasurer), Don Cottingham (VJAS Director), William D. Check (1993 Local Arrangements Chair), Jim Martin (Editor, Virginia Journal of Science)

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by President Holtzman. The agenda for the meeting, as proposed and distributed by Dr. Holtzman, was adopted.

The minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of November 15, 1992 had been distributed by Lisa Alty, secretary. It was mentioned that copies of minutes from the previous council meeting should be sent to all council members ahead of the council meeting. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Report - Golde Holtzman

1. The Awards Committee's Awards for Best Student Paper in each Senior Academy section. Each section will turn in the name of the award winner and the name of the person to present the award just before or at the Academy Conference. At the beginning of the Negus Lecture, the Awards will be presented.
2. Constitution and Bylaws. Dr. Holtzman presented a proposed amendment to the Bylaws to establish for the new joint Virginia Academy of Science/Science Museum of Virginia position a definition of the position's duties and responsibilities. A change to the Constitution takes eighteen months and the new position may be filled by July 1, 1993, therefore a Bylaws change, which takes only 90 days, was proposed.

Dr. Taylor said that he has recommended previously that the VJAS/SMV person be subject to annual review by a Personnel Advisory Committee chaired by the president of the Academy and composed of the past president, the past-past president, and one member of the Junior Academy committee. This personnel advisory committee should be outlined in the Bylaws and would report to Walter Witschey, the director of the SMV. The formation of any committee should be discussed with the Museum personnel before any Bylaws proposal is made. After a very lengthy discussion which included a friendly amendment of Dr. Holtzman's original proposal, Gerald Taylor moved that the following Bylaws change be approved.

ARTICLE XI: ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Section 1. The position of "associate director of the Virginia Junior Academy of Science" is hereby established for the purpose of providing administrative assistance to the Junior Academy of Science Committee, the chair of the Junior Academy of Science Committee and the director of the Virginia Junior Academy of Science.

Section 2. The Executive Committee, subject to the approval of Council, shall select a qualified person for the position, specify his or her duties, and set appropriate remuneration, if any.

Section 3. The incumbent of this position shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Committee, subject to annual review by Council and by the Junior Academy of Science Committee.

Section 4. The incumbent of this position shall be a member of the Virginia Academy of Science, attend all Council meetings and all Virginia Junior Academy of Science Committee meetings, and may participate in all deliberations as circumstances dictate, but, shall not have a vote in either body.

The motion was unanimously approved. The Bylaws change will be sent to the membership in the registration packets for the annual meeting.

3. Finance and Endowment Committee/Fundraising Committee
Dr. Holtzman is asking these committees to make a recommendation to Council at the May 20 meeting about the advisability of engaging a consultant to write proposals to philanthropic foundations to benefit the Junior Academy.
4. Fundraising. The Academy has received 1) a contribution to the Jeffers Fund of the Junior Academy of Science, 2) a generous contribution toward endowment of a student award in the Statistics Section, 3) a gift of \$100 annually from Gamma Sigma Delta, the agriculture and forestry honorary society, to be awarded for the best VJAS paper in that area.
5. Publications and Publicity.
 - a. Two public radio stations have agreed to offer VAS memberships and copies of James River Basin, Past, Present and Future (1950) in their upcoming spring fund drives. Dr. Holtzman contacted WVTF (Roanoke) and Jim O'Brien contacted WHRO (Norfolk).
 - b. Several premiums have been ordered to sell and give as gifts at the ODU annual meeting to improve the visibility of the Academy. T-shirts, insulated mugs, and frisbees will be available for sale and key tags with the Academy seal on them will be given to the juniors. For the junior award winners,

ribboned medals with the VJAS and VAS seals have been ordered. These medals can be worn on the shirts of the winners. Sufficient medals for two years were ordered at a cost of \$900 to \$1,000.

Dr. Taylor moved that the Academy pay for the medals from the appropriate accounts. Dr. Holtzman said that the approval of the funds for the medals shows support for the juniors from the senior Academy. The senior Academy will pay \$500 for the cost of the medals this year; the junior Academy should include this cost in their budget for next year. The motion was unanimously approved. Lapel pins in the shape of the state of Virginia with VAS/VJAS on the front will be given to judges, teachers, and sponsors of the VJAS meetings.

President-Elect's Report - James P. O'Brien

1. Jim O'Brien reported on the events for the senior Academy meeting:

Total number of papers 305-310

Total number of posters 12-18.

Several sections will meet both Thursday and Friday. The Urban Ecology seminar was withdrawn, three of these papers will be presented in the Biology section. On Thursday there is a CEBAF symposium with Astronomy, Math and Physics, a Wine and Health symposium with Chemistry, and a joint meeting of Virginia Flora Committee with Botany. Astronaut Kenneth S. Reightler, Jr. will deliver the George W. Jeffers Memorial Lecture to the junior academy. This lecture is co-sponsored by Boeing. The Negus lecture is co-sponsored by Virginia Wildlife Federation. The Council of Virginia Archaeologists will meet Friday afternoon. The aquaculture technical committee of the Virginia Aquaculture Advisory Board of the Virginia Department of Agriculture will meet Friday morning.

Jim has also been working on publicity for the meeting.

Secretary's Report - Lisa Alty

The minutes of the Council meeting will be sent to the members of the Council next time.

Treasurer's Report - Ralph Eckerlin

1. The Directory of Academies of Science in the U.S. states that the VAS is the sixth largest academy in the U.S. at 1200 members.
2. He submitted a written report on the results of the volunteerism survey he sent to officers of the junior and senior academies and members of the VAS and VJAS committees. Each individual was asked to estimate the hours worked per month on behalf of the Academy, the amount of personal expenses incurred, and the amount of institutional in-kind expenses incurred on behalf of the Academy for calendar year 1992. Ralph Eckerlin reported a 35% response to the questionnaire which indicated 13,450 hours of time and \$15,200 in personal expenses was volunteered by these 154 leaders in the Academy! Michael Bass suggested that a similar survey be done by the treasurer on a regular basis. After some discussion, Jim O'Brien suggested that every three years would be an appropriate time period.

3. In efforts to raise some funds for the Academy, Ralph has written letters to some environmental companies in northern Virginia. A new brochure for soliciting business members and contributions is needed to aid in this effort.

Immediate Past President - Gerald Taylor Jr.

Dr. Taylor reported on a meeting that he, Rae Carpenter, and Golde Holtzman had with Betty Blatt and the Science Museum of Virginia director Walter Witschey to discuss the paid associate director of the VJAS to be housed in the Science Museum. Dr. Witschey is in the process of hiring a person who may fill this joint position. Dr. Holtzman mentioned that there would be a Science Museum of Virginia booth at the meeting. He also mentioned that the Science Museum of Virginia could support the Visiting Scientists program by distributing the list to professionals known by the SMV.

VJAS Director - Don Cottingham

1. Don Cottingham reported that Virginia Power has donated \$5,000 to support the section awards. They have also donated an award for the first place paper in engineering as shares of common stock in Virginia Power. Virginia Neurological Society will renew neuroscience awards at four awards of \$50 each. There is a \$100 agricultural and forestry award.

2. Over 1700 papers were submitted for the Junior Academy meeting, up 17% from last year. Thirty-six sections will meet and 750 papers will be read.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer - Blanton Bruner

1. The 1992 audit is in progress.

2. Sidney Negus, Jr. called to say that he and his sister will increase the Negus Award Fund by June, 1993.

Local Arrangements Committee Report - William Check

1. There will be 14 exhibitors at the annual meeting.

2. The packets for registration and housing are ready to give to Blanton Bruner to be mailed to the membership. The contents of the packets and the housing rates were discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gerald Taylor distributed some suggestions from Joe Ruddman for future meetings. The suggestions included lists to be sent to the Chairpersons, major officers of every section, and to presenters.

2. Michael Bass reported for the Nominations and Elections Committee on the slate of nominations for the 1993-4 officers.

President-Elect

Elsa Q. Falls

Dept. of Biology, Randolph-Macon College

Secretary

George Mushrush
Dept. of Chemistry, George Mason University

Treasurer

Rosemary Barra
Dept. of Biology, Mary Washington College

The slate will be mailed in the annual meeting registration packet.

3. Gerald Taylor mentioned that the President-Elect was well worked at this time of year with responsibilities for the annual meeting as well as the program for the meeting. He suggested that the program might become the responsibility of another officer of the Academy. Dr. Holtzman said that he felt the program was the way a president-elect demonstrated a commitment to the Academy and learned about the workings of the Academy before he or she became president. Michael Bass felt that maybe we should have two levels of president-elect to spread the work out over two years.

Concluding Remarks - Golde Holtzman

Dr. Holtzman expressed his pleasure at the new Bylaws change that was discussed and approved by the Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.