

VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 1995

Present: Elsa Q. Falls (President), Thomas O. Sitz (President-Elect), Rosemary Barra (Secretary), Kenneth C. Jacobs (Treasurer), Don Cottingham (VJAS Director), Blanton M. Bruner (Executive Secretary-Treasurer), James P. O'Brien (1993-94 President; Chair, Fund Raising Committee), Rae Carpenter (Co-Chair, Local Arrangements Committee - VMI), Richard B. Minnix (Co-Chair, Local Arrangements Committee - VMI), James H. Martin (Editor, Virginia Journal of Science).

The meeting was called to order at 10:03, and the agenda for the meeting was adopted with the Local Arrangement Committee moved to the top of the agenda. The minutes from the Executive Committee meeting of November 6, 1994 were approved.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Local Arrangements - Rae Carpenter

Rae Carpenter distributed a packet of information for the Annual Meeting. He indicated that the paper sessions for the Senior Academy will be held in Mallory Hall and the Science Building and that these two buildings are connected. The Junior Academy sessions will require three buildings, Scott-Ship Hall in addition to Mallory Hall and the Science Building. The Aeronautical and Aerospace Sciences and the Microbiology and Molecular Biology sections will not meet this year. A potential insurance problem related to the use of school buses for the Junior Academy was avoided when the superintendent of Rockbridge County Schools indicated that their insurance policy will cover the buses and drivers. A list of exhibitors and supporters of the meeting (ex. the Rockbridge County Schools) will be included in this year's booklet.

President - Elsa Q. Falls

President Falls distributed a copy of her report (attached), and emphasized the following points:

-The LAC meeting was held on January 10th, and plans for the Annual Meeting are progressing nicely. She thanked the LAC for all of their work.

-The request for a state travel exemption for attending the VAS meeting was denied. Each person must seek an exemption through his/her own institution.

-The Biology Planning Committee of the Virginia Community Colleges will be meeting in Charlottesville on March 31 and April 1, 1995. VAS membership brochures will be available at the meeting.

VJAS Director - Don Cottingham

Don Cottingham reported that the VJAS received 1,875 papers this year, an increase of approximately 100 over last year, and that the papers were being sent to the readers today. He has not received any concerns from the sponsors regarding the motel and busing arrangements for the meeting at VMI. President Falls thanked Don for all his hard work and wished him a good trip back to Richmond.

President-Elect - Thomas O. Sitz

Tom Sitz reported that the Aeronautical and Aerospace Sciences and Microbiology and Molecular Biology sections will not be running sessions at the Annual Meeting. The ASM meeting in Washington conflicts with the VAS meeting. He indicated that the number of papers for the meeting looked good.

It was noted that in November Gene Maurakis will complete his first year as Associate Director of the VJAS and that it may be time to appoint a committee for his annual review.

Jim O'Brien made the following motion:

The Executive Committee recommends to Council that the President appoint a committee to review the agreement and performance thereof between the Virginia Science Museum and VAS regarding the VJAS Associate Director position. This meeting should be held in early summer.

The motion was seconded by Ken Jacobs and passed unanimously.

Secretary - Rosemary Barra

No report

Treasurer - Kenneth C. Jacobs

Ken Jacobs presented the current membership figures for the VAS and indicated that the membership had increased by 18.

Change from 11/6/94

Regular	713	+9
Student	307	+7
Individual/Sustaining	26	0
Individual/Contributing	55	0
Life	31 (+ 4 Emeritus)	+2
Business/Regular	12	0
Business/Sustaining	4	0
Business/Contributing	1	0
Institutions	32	0
Patrons	?	?

The numbers are still comparable to February and November 1994, with a slight increase (+2%) due to those signing up for the VAS Annual Meeting at VMI. We know that we have some Patrons, but specific information on them has not yet been communicated to Lisa Martin.

Past President - James P. O'Brien

At the winter meeting of the VJAS a new seal was presented that ties the Junior Academy to the Senior Academy. The design of this seal is presently being reviewed. A video entitled "The VJAS Experience" has been produced and Jim O'Brien thanked Vernon Kramer and Pam Sumner for their work on this project.

The 75th Anniversary Committee developed a logo that it would like to incorporate into the VAS stationary and fund raising campaign. After a discussion of the symbols in the logo and suggestions that further work be done, Jim requested that the logo be approved at the May meeting.

The number of membership brochures is dwindling and the brochure needs to be reprinted before the Annual Meeting.

Jim O'Brien made the following motion:

That the Executive Committee approve the reprinting of 2000 membership brochures at an estimated cost of \$350 before the Annual Meeting at VMI.

The motion was seconded by Ken Jacobs and passed unanimously.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer - Blanton Bruner

Blanton Bruner did not have a formal report since the financial affairs of the Academy were under examination at the present time. He indicated that we finished last year with both the VJAS and VAS in the black and that the net results of the year were favorable.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55.

VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 1995

Present: Elsa Q. Falls (President), Thomas O. Sitz (President-Elect), James P. O'Brien (Past President, 1993-94), Rosemary Barra (Secretary), Kenneth C. Jacobs (Treasurer; Councilor, Astronomy, Math and Physics Section), Gerald R. Taylor (Past President, 1991-92; Co-Chair, Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Co-chair, VJAS Search Committee; Nominations and Elections Committee), Vera B. Remsburg (Trustee, Science Museum of Virginia), Golde I. Holtzman (Past President, 1992-93; Chair, Archives Committee and 75th Anniversary Committee), James H. Martin (Editor, Virginia Journal of Science), Paul J. Homsher (Co-Chair, Finance and Endowment Committee), Richard B. Brandt (Jeffress-Gwathmey Trust; Chair, Long Range Planning Committee), D. Rae Carpenter (Co-Chair, Local Arrangements Committee; Chair, Futures Committee; Chair, Trust Committee), Judy Niehaus (Chair, Research Committee), Ertle Thompson (AAAS Representative), Blanton M. Bruner (Executive Secretary-Treasurer), Marion B. Lobstein (Councilor, Botany Section; Co-Chair, Public Affairs Committee), Carolyn B. Conway (Chair, Awards Committee; Councilor, Biology Section), Ralph P. Eckerlin, Co-Chair, Public Affairs Committee), J.J. Murray (Chair, Committee on the Environment), Robert Berquist (Councilor, Psychology).

The meeting was called to order by President Elsa Falls at 1:10 PM, and a motion to approve the agenda was passed. The minutes from the Council meetings on May 18, 1994 and November 6, 1994 were approved.

OFFICERS' REPORTSPresident - Elsa Q. Falls

President Falls distributed copies of her report (attached).

President-Elect - Thomas O. Sitz

The number of titles looks good for the May meeting. Two sections will not meet this year - Aeronautical and Aerospace Sciences and Microbiology and Molecular Biology. The Microbiology and Molecular Biology section is not meeting because of the conflict with the ASM meeting in Washington.

Richard Brandt pointed out that this will be the third year that Microbiology has not had a session. Following a discussion of possible ways to deal with this situation, Rae Carpenter made the following motion:

To inform the Microbiology and Molecular Biology Section that they will be dropped if they do not have a session at the 1996 Annual Meeting.

The motion was seconded by Jim Martin and passed unanimously.

Secretary - Rosemary Barra

No report

Treasurer - Kenneth C. Jacobs

Reported on the current membership figures for the VAS.

Change from 11/6/94

Regular	713	+9
Student	307	+7
Individual/Sustaining	26	0
Individual/Contributing	55	0
Life	31 (+4 Emeritus)	+2
Business/Regular	12	0
Business/Sustaining	4	0
Business/Contributing	1	0
Institutions	32	0
Patrons	?	?

The numbers are similar to last years. Although we know that there are some Patrons, Lisa Martin does not have that information.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer - Blanton Bruner

Blanton Bruner indicated that the financial affairs of the Academy were presently in the hands of the auditor. Both the VJAS and the VAS were in the black last year, and the Annual Meeting at JMU was most successful from a financial point of view.

Past President 1993-94 - James O'Brien

Jim O'Brien distributed a copy of his report (attached). He announced that the video "The VJAS Experience" was now available and he thanked the people at TCC for their work on this project. He also distributed a draft design for a 75th Anniversary logo that could be included on the Academy's stationary and fund raising activities.

Jim O'Brien made the following motion:

That Council approve a special budgetary item (in addition to funds already budgeted to the Academy's Representative on SMV's Board of Trustees) to fund

\$300 for the President and guest or designees to attend the Virginia Outstanding Scientists and Industrialists Awards Reception and Banquet.

Golde Holtzman seconded the motion.

Jim O'Brien stated that this is a fund raising activity for the Virginia Science Museum but that it would also be an opportunity to make contacts for future fund raising by the VAS.

Jim Murray spoke against the motion since we do not need to contribute to a fund raising activity for another organization.

Vera Remsburg pointed out that the purpose of the event is recognition of the outstanding work that has been done by the honored individuals and that it is not just a fund raiser.

Ken Jacobs offered an amendment to the motion which would change the amount to \$250, the price of two tickets. The amendment passed.

The amended motion was then passed with some negative votes.

Gerald Taylor proposed the following motion:

That Council should approve \$250 for Jim O'Brien as Chair of the Fund Raising Committee to attend the Virginia Outstanding Scientists and Industrialists Awards Reception and Banquet.

The motion was seconded by Richard Brandt who commented that visibility is important.

The motion passed with 1 negative vote and 1 abstention.

Elsa Falls thanked Jim for his continued hard work on behalf of the Academy.

Past President 1992-93 - Golde Holtzman

No report

Past President 1991-92 - Gerald Taylor

Gerald Taylor submitted a report on his January 6, 1995 meeting with Drs. Walter Witchey, Betty Blatt and Gene Maurakis (attached). He reviewed two possible organization charts with Walter Witchey and proposed the following motion to Council:

That we provide these two charts for Vera Remsburg to use in discussions with the Science Museum of Virginia.

The motion was seconded by Jim Murray and passed with one no vote.

Gerald Taylor also reported that Betty Blatt was unhappy over the lack of sufficient secretarial support for Gene Maurakis. He recommended that the Academy provide one-half daily secretarial staffing for the VAS and VJAS offices.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE REPORTS

1995 Virginia Military Institute - D. Rae Carpenter and R.B. Minnix

The arrangements for the Annual Meeting at VMI were reviewed with the Executive Committee and the program is ready to be turned over to the president-elect for printing. Rae also reported that attempts are being made to arrange for local science students to assist with the VJAS meeting.

President Falls thanked Rae for the fine job he and the members of the Local Arrangements Committee are doing.

1996 Virginia Commonwealth University - Tom Haas

Absent

DIRECTORS AND REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

VJAS Director - Don Cottingham

Elsa Falls reported that Don Cottingham was present at the Executive Committee meeting but has returned to Richmond to deal with the 1,875 papers received by the VJAS. The papers are being sent to the readers today.

Visiting Scientist's Program - Jack Cranford

Absent

AAAS - Representative Ertle Thompson

Ertle Thompson reported on the meetings of the AAAS Affiliates and the NAAS. The incoming President of the AAAS is interested in promoting closer relationships with the affiliates. The attached report includes a list of topics that will be discussed further by the members of the NAAS.

Science Museum of Virginia - Trustee Vera Remsburg

The 25th Anniversary of the Science Museum will be celebrated this year. The General Assembly created the Science Museum July 1, 1970. Vera announced that the Chesapeake Bay week at the Museum will be March 13-17.

As of July 1, 1996, Vera will no longer be a member of the Trustee Board of the Museum. The Council needs to nominate two members of the Academy for this position. Walter Witchey will receive the nominations and make a recommendation to the Governor who in turn appoints the new Trustee. We will need to have two nominees by the May meeting. Please send the names of nominees to Elsa Falls.

Vera also reported on the VJAS Distinguished Service Awards. She has a list of the recipients for the years between 1968 and 1980. The information on the recipients after 1980 is not available from the Archives. Anyone who can fill in the missing names, please contact her as soon as possible.

Jeffress and Gwathmey Memorial Trust Allocation committee - Richard Brandt

Richard Brandt will give a report at the Friday Council meeting at VMI.

VAST - Maurice Lynch

Absent

VSLA - Tom Teates

Absent

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives Committee - Golde I. Holtzman

No report

Awards Committee - Carolyn Conway

Student Awards will be given at the 1995 Annual Meeting. The Call for Papers for the meeting included an announcement concerning the Best Student Paper Awards. Guidelines were sent to all section secretaries.

Two nominations for fellows were submitted by the October 1st deadline. The Awards Committee has not completed its review of this information. Therefore, appropriate recommendations will be submitted to the Council in May.

Constitution and Bylaws - Co-chairs Michael L. Bass and Gerald R. Taylor

No report

Environment - J.J. Murray

In accordance with the resolution passed by Council at its meeting in November, the Committee has arranged to hold a session at the annual meeting in May. In conjunction with the Environmental Science Section, the Committee will invite representatives of colleges and universities to report on activities at their institutions that address the objectives of the Talloires Declaration of the World Watch Institute. The session will be held on Friday morning at 9:00.

Finance and Endowment - Co-Chairs Arthur w. Burke, Jr. and Paul J. Homsher

No report other than on the actions taken today - \$350 has been allocated for reprinting the membership brochures and \$500 has been allocated for attendance at the Virginia Outstanding Scientist and Industrialist Awards Reception and Banquet.

Fund Raising - James O'Brien

Jim O'Brien distributed a report from the Fund Raising Committee and a document entitled "VAS Fund Raising Campaign, Phase I: Internal/Membership" (attached). Following a discussion of these documents, Jim O'Brien moved the five motions listed on the third page of the report. These motions were seconded by Paul Homsher.

Gerald Taylor made a motion to table the five motions until they could be reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Move that the Executive Committee make a report to Council at the May meeting on the action taken on each of these motions.

The motion passed unanimously.

Junior Academy of Science - Don Cottingham

Elsa Falls reported that a pilot program for regionalization will take place in the Danville area prior to the 1996 meeting.

Long-Range Planning - Richard B. Brandt

Recommend that the President have the Chair look at the meetings for the year 2000 and beyond.

Membership - Scott H. Newton and John P. Morgan

Absent

Nominations and Elections Committee - Gerald Taylor

1995 Candidates for Academy Offices

President-Elect:	R. Dean Decker Department of Biology University of Richmond
Vice President:	Carolyn M. Conway Department of Biology Virginia Commonwealth University
Secretary:	Joseph W. Rudmin Physics Department James Madison University
Treasurer:	Gregory C. Cook Tidewater Community College

Publications CommitteeVirginia Journal of Science, Editor James H. Martin

Requested that quality papers be submitted for publication in the Journal.

Virginia Scientist, Editor Gregory C. Cook

Absent

Research - Judy H. Niehaus

Announced that two Horsely Research Grants have been awarded and that one paper has been submitted for the Horsely Paper Award.

Science Advisory - William L. Dewey and Ernest R. Stout

Absent

Science Education - Thomas G. Teates and Maurice P. Lynch

Absent

Trust Committee - Rae Carpenter

Rae Carpenter presented a report that described the current holdings of the Academy. The value of all of the trust fund investments increased 4% in 1994. He also included a breakdown of the Senior and Junior Academy Awards.

Paul Homshure praised Rae for his work to improve the status of the trust funds and made the following motion:

That Rae Carpenter receive acclamation for the work he has done on the Trust Committee.

This motion was unanimously approved.

Virginia Flora - Marion Lobstein

A questionnaire concerning plant identification has been sent to members of the Botany section and to educational organizations. An E-mail bulletin board is being established.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Futures Committee - Rae Carpenter

The following motion was presented to Council:

The Executive Committee recommends to Council that the President appoint a committee to review the agreement and performance thereof between the VAS and Virginia Science Museum regarding the VJAS Associate Director position. This meeting should be held in early summer.

This motion was passed unanimously.

Public Affairs - Ralph Eckerlin and Marion Lobstein

VAS membership pamphlets will be available at the upcoming meeting of the Virginia Community Colleges' Biology Faculty.

The proposed regulations of the US Fish and Wildlife Commission were reviewed by the Biology Section.

75th Anniversary Committee - Golde Holtzman

Golde Holtzman thanked Jim O'Brien for his work on designing a logo for the 75th Anniversary. Charlotte Webb is making good progress on the history of the Academy.

VJAS Director Search - Carolyn Conway and Gerald Taylor

Gerald Taylor reported that no one is in place yet for taking over as Director of the VJAS and Don will continue in this position. A possible candidate may be available in about 3 1/2 years.

SECTION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS

Aeronautical and Aerospace Science - Fred Lutze

Absent

Agriculture, Forestry and Aquaculture - Scott Newton

Absent

Archaeology - J. Mark Wittkofski

Absent

Astronomy, Mathematics, and Physics - Kenneth C. Jacobs

The section is healthy and may have to hold a Friday morning session.

Biology - Carolyn M. Conway

The Biology Section has received a number of papers including 20 student papers.

A Letter of Comment was sent to the USFWS regarding the proposed regulations for importing and exporting scientific specimens. Comments were coordinated with those of the Association of Systematic Collections. Several individuals also responded individually. The volume of response was such that the comment period was extended 30 days and USFWS is reconsidering the new regulations.

Biomedical and General Engineering - Eleni Achilleos and Penny Pagona

Absent

Botany - Marion Lobstein

Not as many papers as last year but expected to have a good day on Thursday.

Chemistry - George Mushrush

Absent

Computer Science - Robert Willis

Absent

Education - Thomas Teates

Absent

Environmental Science - Michael L. Bass

Jim Murray reported that they had many papers and will run a Friday session.

Geography - Jack Gentile

Absent

Geology - David Harbor

The Geology section will hold a one day session.

Materials Science - Kenneth Lawless
Absent

Medical Sciences - Sandra Welch
Absent

Microbiology and Molecular Biology - Frances Macrina
Absent

Psychology - Robert A. Berquest

We received 15 papers by the due date and another 7 arrived a day later. Eight posters were also submitted. George Jones notified, by letter, chairs and Department Heads of Psychology at all appropriate colleges and universities of the opportunity to present papers and posters at the May meeting. Things are progressing well for the May meeting.

Statistics -John Morgan
Golde Holtzman reported that they had received an average number of papers.

OLD BUSINESS

Ralph Eckerlin requested \$1000 for the Appalachians Biogeography Symposium. Over 40 papers will be presented and the participants will be paying their own expenses. The largest expense associated with the symposium will be the publication of the proceedings.

The following motion was made:

That a donation of \$1000 be given to support the Appalachian Biogeography Symposium.

At this point the discussion centered around the existence of precedents for this type of donation. Golde Holtzman mentioned that funds were given as seed money for projects and that the Academy is acknowledged as a sponsor. Rae Carpenter stated that the Academy sponsors symposium at its own meetings.

The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Marion Lobstein spoke about her concern that changes are taking place in recognizing the importance of labs in science education. She indicated that at Community Colleges laboratory teaching is not included in the contact hours for the faculty member.

A number of members of the Council expressed their concerns that the laboratories are being cut to save money. Jim Murray mentioned that computer simulations are being used to teach labs and at JMU the Anatomy courses are taught using computers. Also, Biology labs have been eliminated from the intro courses. After hearing about a number of these situations, the feeling was that the VAS must speak out and try to influence the policy.

It was recommended that an open discussion of this issue take place at the Academy Conference and that a resolution be prepared that can be acted on at that meeting. Carolyn Conway, Paul Homshure and Marion Lobstein volunteered to prepare the resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35.

BYLAWS OF THE VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Recommendation from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee that was submitted to VAS Council, May 26, 1995 and approved by Council for submission to membership.

CURRENT WORDING OF
ARTICLE I: TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Section 3. Life members shall be individuals who elect to pay to the Academy the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) and thereby become exempt from further payment of dues.
- Section 4. Patrons shall be those persons who have given to theis organization the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) or its equivalent in property. They shall have all the rights and privileges of Regular Members and shall be exempt from dues. An institution may also become a Patron by meeting the above requirement. Its representative shall have all the rights and privileges of regular members.

APPROVED CHANGE IN WORDING OF
ARTICLE I: TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Section 3. Life members shall be individuals who elect to pay to the Academy the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and thereby become exempt from further payment of dues.
- Section 4. Patrons shall be those persons who have given to theis organization the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) or its equivalent in property. They shall have all the rights and privileges of membership for one year. An institution may also become a Patron by meeting the above requirement. Its representative shall have all the rights and privileges of regular members.

The following resolution was approved unanimously by both the Virginia Academy of Science Council (the organization's governing board) on May 24, 1995 and by the Academy Conference, on May 25, 1995 at the VAS Annual Meeting at VMI.

IMPORTANCE OF LABORATORY IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

In association with other professional scientific groups and organizations, the Virginia Academy of Science strongly supports the laboratory experience as an integral part of science education at all levels. Science is a study of natural phenomena and requires a laboratory component which permits and encourages discovery and creativity. Science faculty welcome electronic technology as a potentially effective tool to expand and to enhance instruction. However, it can neither duplicate nor replace learning experiences afforded to students through hands-on lab and field activities. These hands-on laboratory and field experiences:

engage students in open-ended investigative processes, using scientific problem solving

provide application of information students have heard and seen in lecture, thereby reinforcing and clarifying scientific principles and concepts

involve multiple senses in three-dimensional rather than two-dimensional learning experiences important for greater retention of concepts and for accommodation of different leaning styles

stimulate students to understand the nature of science including its unpredictability and complexity

provide opportunities to engage in collaborative work and to model scientific attitudes and behavior

develop mastery of techniques and skills needed for potential science, engineering, and technology majors

ensure science course transferability to four-year schools as well as to graduate and professional schools within and outside of Virginia

In summary, the knowledge gained from science courses with a strong laboratory component enables students to understand in more practical and concrete ways their own physical makeup, the functioning of the natural world around them, environmental issues, etc. It is only by maintaining hands-on lab experiences that the brightest and most promising potential science majors will be stimulated

and not turned off by lecture only approaches to science. These lab courses may offer many students their only opportunity to experience a science laboratory environment. These same students as potential voters, parents, teachers, legislators, developers, and land use planners benefit from a well-rounded educational experience, including laboratory experience, in making sound decisions for the future of Virginia.

NOTES