

**Minutes of the May 22 1996 Meeting
of the Executive Committee
of the Academy Council
of the Virginia Academy of Science**

University Student Commons Alumni Association Board Room, Virginia
Commonwealth University, 2 pm, May 22, 1996

Members Present: Thomas O. Sitz (President), Elsa Q. Falls (Immediate Past President), R. Dean Decker (President-elect), Carolyn M. Conway (Vice President), Joseph W. Rudmin (Secretary), Arthur W. Burke, Jr. (Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer), Donald R. Cottingham (Director, Junior Academy of Science). Others Present: Darcy Mays (Incoming Treasurer), James Martin, (Editor of the Virginia Journal of Science), Larry Snedden, (photographer).

Members Absent: Greg Cook (Treasurer), Blanton Bruner (Executive Secretary Treasurer).

The meeting commenced at 2:10 pm.

1. Introductions: Participants introduced themselves.
2. The Agenda was adopted
3. The minutes of the November meeting were approved, and the minutes of the March meeting were approved subject to submitted corrections.
4. Officers' Reports
 - a. President, Tom Sitz

i. Future meeting sites: Tom reported receiving a letter from President Covington at Radford University inviting the Academy to hold the annual meeting there in the year 2000. Tom sent a response to him, with copies going to appropriate people at Radford and to Richard Brandt (Long Range Planning Committee Chair), suggesting Judy Niehaus as contact person and Local

Arrangements Chair. I plan to write John Casteen about holding the meeting in 2001 or 2002 at the University of Virginia. This will be done in consultation with Jim Murray, Ken Lawless, and Ertle Thompson, who are active Academy members there.

Tom asked when was the last time the Academy met at William and Mary. Dean Decker said that it was in 1975. There has not been a meeting there since, because the Academy has not felt welcomed there. Moreover, there are few active Academy members there. Art Burke said that since the W&M administration has since changed, they should be reconsidered as a meeting set. Dean Decker suggested Ronald Giese as a possible contact person on this question. Mary Washington was suggested as a possible site. Michael Bass would be an appropriate person to ask about this. Committee members were not certain of the date of the most recent meeting there, but felt that it was time to ask them again. We have

an invitation to return to VCU in the year 2003, which is well set. The years 2001 and 2002 still need to be settled.

The University of Richmond was mentioned as a very attractive site for the meetings, especially regarding the activities of the Junior Academy. However, there is currently a shortage of active Academy members there who would be willing to carry on the duties needed.

Christopher Newport, Virginia State, and Hampton University were also mentioned as possible sites.

ii. Teaching Creationism in the Public Schools: Tom Sitz said that a situation has arisen to which the Academy might wish to respond. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, William Bosher, has suggested that creationism might be given equal weight with evolution in teaching biology. Tom has asked Tom Teates, co-chair of the Science Education Committee, to look into this and perhaps coordinate a response with other science organizations in the state. Teates has suggested either reviving a previous statement on this which we used several years ago, or using a very good statement developed by the State Department of Education. He has nothing ready for this meeting however. Art Burke thought that such a statement might alienate more support than it garners. A statement from someone other than the Academy would carry a lot more weight. The AAAS might be consulted. Tom Sitz replied that they have a very good statement on this issue. Dean Decker suggested NABT--the National Association of Biology Teachers. Joe Rudmin thought that non-fundamentalist churches might be supportive. Dean Decker supported Art's position by noting that nothing further had developed from the statement. Art added that he thought that Bosher's statement was political rather than ideological, and Dean Decker said that he was a strong supporter of the Junior Academy program. The final consensus was that it would be best to do nothing at this time.

b. President-Elect, Dean Decker

i. The Current Meeting

Dean said that his major efforts in the meeting have been to procure judges. Of all the people who said they would come, there have been only two no-shows. In general the meeting has been going well.

Art Burke mentioned two people in particular, Ann and Preston Leake, who have been generous with both their time and money in supporting the Junior Academy.

ii. Meeting conflicts

Dean Decker raised an issue which he thought the Committee might want to consider, and that is the problems which arise from other institutions scheduling science events which conflict with the Academy. For instance, Radford faculty know when our meeting is, yet they scheduled a biology symposium at the same time. Perhaps when we know our schedule we should send a letter to various department heads or deans, asking them to try to avoid conflicts.

iii. Speaker for the 1997 meeting

Since the March meeting, Dean Decker has received confirmation of acceptance by speaker Richard Rutan. He will be giving us two talks for a charge of \$3000, for which he normally charges \$10,000. He plans to come on Tuesday and leave on Friday. Dean asked Tom Sitz, as a VPI faculty member, to be sure that the VPI aerospace department knows about Rutan's talks.

c. Vice President, Carolyn Conway

Carolyn Conway reported on the revised procedures to be sure that the people who present papers at the Academy meeting are members and have paid their dues. Starting next year, the Academy will ask for dues when the titles are submitted. Carolyn also suggested that a penalty for presenting a paper without paying dues would be a refusal to publish the abstract. Since some presenters pay their meeting registration and dues with the same check, the easiest way to handle this is for the local arrangements chair to keep track of which people are doing this and then to write a check to the Academy for dues payments.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION: The motion was made, seconded, and passed to 1) request payment of dues at the time that titles of papers are sent in, and 2) to prohibit the publication of abstracts for presenters who have not paid their dues. This will take effect next year.

An additional advantage of the above procedure is that people who pay their dues when they submit their titles are entered into the mailing lists to receive registration materials. The costs of dues and meeting registration fees are very modest compared to most other scientific organizations.

d. Secretary, Joseph Rudmin, No report

e. Treasurer, Greg Cook (absent)

f. Immediate Past President, Elsa Falls

Elsa said that she was happy to represent the Academy at the Virginia Science Museum banquet. She also said that she has enjoyed working with Steven Negus, the Negus lecturer at this year's meeting.

g. Virginia Junior Academy of Science Director, Don Cottingham

1100 participants attended the Junior Academy meeting. He also reported on the meeting of the Junior Academy Committee and on the new loose-leaf format of the Junior Academy Handbook, which should reduce future printing costs. He also announced the Junior Academy Committee summer meeting. He said that regionalization has been shelved for three years.

5. Executive Secretary-Treasurer Blanton Bruner (with Arthur Burke, Jr.) Art Burke reporting:

Blanton Bruner is now 91 years old, and is in good shape mentally, although his knees are giving him problems. I (Art Burke) have hopes of retiring on July first,

1996, at which time I will be able to devote more time to the Academy business. In submitting the 1996 budget, we cut the Executive Secretary-Treasurer's salary from \$8000 to \$4000, anticipating that Blanton would retire after six months, and that Art Burke, his replacement, would draw no salary. Another issue is the problem of space at the Science Museum now and in the future. A director of physical facilities, J. Parry, has been appointed, to coordinate the construction while the Museum has the renovation funds. They will renovate first the east wing and then the west wing of the Broad Street Station. The Museum would like someone from the Academy to discuss space needs with the design architects. There is a two-fold problem. We have materials stored in the cellar, including 3 pallets (4x4x4 feet) of copies of the James River Basin. We are being asked to move this to rented storage, which will cost us three to five hundred dollars per year. Should we pay to store this white elephant or ditch it? We also have two pallets of back-issues of the Virginia Journal of Science. A more serious problem is where will the Academy office move during the renovation of the east wing? The west wing will be vacated at that time. No guarantees have been given, and our position is tenuous at the Science Museum. Don Cottingham said that to secure our rights, it was essential that Ray Carpenter go down there and meet with them personally. Art said that the cooperation between the Academy and the Science Museum was based on some well-meant visions, but that what was needed was a contract. The President of the Academy needs to meet with Walter Witschey, or whomever else is empowered, to work out an agreement and put it in writing. Don Cottingham said that promises were given in writing to the Long Range Planning Committee specifying both office and storage space, and the time commitment of the Associate Director. They have backed off on the Associate Director, but the rest is in writing. Art replied that we should use that letter as a starting point for future negotiations, and that we needed to move expeditiously. J. Parry mentioned that the Model Railroad Association has already given him their requirements, implying that we should respond soon. I'm not sure that we even know what we need, but we should look forward, not backward and act quickly. Otherwise we may find ourselves out in the street. We need to maintain a good rapport with the Museum. Walter Witschey has been very successful in fund raising, and has everything they hoped for for the next seven years. I would strongly suggest that the President of the Academy appoint a small ad hoc committee, including the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and Lisa Martin, to sound out the Academy concerning space needs for both the seniors and juniors. The sitting President, and the chairman of the Long-range Planning Committee should also be a member. Joe Rudmin asked how much it would cost to store the books. Don Cottingham said that it comes to \$472 per year. Rudmin suggested that this was not an unbearable amount to pay for storage under own control. Don Cottingham said that the Academy had addressed the space problem, and that we decided that our needs were 2200 square feet. This has been repeatedly communicated to Witschey and the Museum in writing. Art said that he and Blanton feel that this is an issue that should be moved on or we may soon find ourselves without an office. Tom Sitz said that he may have a solution to the storage problem, and would know by the end of next week. J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College may provide warehouse space which would be suitable. Joe Rudmin asked Art Burke what his vision was for the eventual solution

to the space problem. Art said that he thought that someday a benefactor would donate a building, along with an endowment for its upkeep.

6. Local Arrangements Committee Reports

a. 1996, Virginia Commonwealth University, Tom Haas (absent)

b. 1997, Virginia Tech, John Hess and Tom Sitz

Tom Sitz reporting. Tom said the current meeting is going well, and he, John Hess, Golde Holtzmann, and Tom Teates, had been meeting monthly, and were on top of things. They have strong support from the President's office. Their plans are outlined in the written report submitted to the last meeting.

7. Old Business

Dean Decker asked Tom to take the meeting scrap book from the display table and to take it to the archives.

8. New Business

Joe Rudmin suggested that, given Blanton Bruner's retirement, perhaps the Council could direct that some money be set aside from the trust fund to provide for an endowed scholarship in his name. Art Burke said that this might be appropriate after he retires. He (Bruner) has funded a scholarship for the support of chemistry graduate students which might be enlarged and named after him. Some of Blanton's in-laws (the Massey family) might view favorably some kind of an endowment honoring him, if approached discretely by the right person. This was followed by a brief discussion on the problems of fund-raising and legislative support. Art Burke expressed the opinion that the best way to generate more fund-raising support is to regionalize the Junior Academy so that more people see local benefit. Joe Rudmin favored highly publicizing VAS Scholarships. Art Burke said that the only way to get things like this done is for some determined volunteer to make it their cause celebre,

9. Concluding Remarks, Tom Sitz thanked everyone for the support he had received during his recent health problems.

10. Adjournment was at 4:10 pm.

**Minutes of the May 22 Meeting
of the Academy Council
of the Virginia Academy of Science**

May 22, 1996, Virginia Commonwealth University, 74th Annual Meeting, 6 pm,
Student Commons Theater, University Student Commons

Present: Thomas O. Sitz (President), R. Dean Decker (President-elect, Science Education Committee), Carolyn M. Conway (Vice President, Biology, Awards Committee), Joseph W. Rudmin (Secretary, Membership Committee), Elsa Q. Falls (First Past President), Gerald R. Taylor (Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Astro. Math, and Physics), Michael L. Bass (Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Environmental Science, Committee on the Environment), Marion Lobstein (Virginia Flora Committee, Botany), Arthur W. Burke, Jr. (Finance and Endowment Committee, Ass't Exec. Sec-Treas), Ann Lund (Natural History and Biodiversity), Ralph Eckerlin (Public Affairs), William Harrison (Biomedical & Engineering), Paul Homsher, D. Rae Carpenter, Jr. (Trust Committee), Vera B. Remsburg (Science Museum of Virginia Trustee), James P. O'Brien (Second Past President, Fund Raising Committee),

Absent: Donald P. Cottingham (Junior Academy of Science Committee, VJAS Director), James H. Martin (Publications Committee, Va. Journal of Science Editor), Ertle Thompson (AAAS/NAAS Rep.) Lisa Martin (Administrative Assistant to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer), Richard B. Brandt (Long Range Planning, Gwathmey and Jeffress Trusts Rep.), Thomas W. Haas (1996 Local Arrangements Committee), Mary Strother (VAST Representative), Greg Cook (Treasurer, Publications Committee, Virginia Scientist Editor), Golde I. Holtzmann (Third Past President, Archives Committee, 75th Anniversary Committee, Nominations and Elections Committee), Eugene B. Barfield (Archaeology, Public Affairs

Committee), Pamela Turpin (Education), Sandra P. Welch (Medical Sciences), Robert A. Berquest (Psychology), Fred H. Lutze (Aeronautical and Aerospace Science), Scott H. Newton (Agriculture, Forestry, and Aquaculture), Eleni Achilleos and Penny Pagona, (Biomedical and General Engineering), George W. Mushrush (Chemistry), Robert A. Willis (Computer Science), Steven Wright (Geography), Kenneth Lawless (Materials Science), Judy H. Niehaus (Research Committee), Francis Macrina, (Microbiology and Molecular Biology), Michael Kosztarab (Natural History and Biodiversity), Paul J. Homsher (Finance and Endowment Committee), John P. Morgan (Statistics), William L. Dewey (Science Advisory Committee), Thomas G. Teates (Science Education Committee), Jack Cranford (Director Visiting Scientists), Blanton Bruner (Executive Secretary Treasurer).

The meeting commenced at 6:10 pm.

1. The participants introduced themselves.

2. The agenda was adopted.

3. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, subject to submitted corrections.

4. Officers' Reports

a. President, Tom Sitz

Radford has offered to host the meetings in the year 2000, and we have accepted their offer. I have suggested that Judy Niehaus be the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. The following meeting sites are scheduled: 1997--Virginia Tech, 1998--George Mason, 1999--Old Dominion, 2000--Radford, 2001 and 2002 are unscheduled, and 2003--VCU. We are still seeking a local arrangements chair for ODU.

b. President-Elect, Dean Decker

Dean spent the last two months getting judges for the current VJAS meeting, ending up eight or nine short. He also reported that he has engaged Richard Rutan as the speaker for the 1997 VAS and VJAS meeting. Mr. Rutan flew the Voyager aircraft around the world without refueling.

d. Vice President Carolyn Conway.

This year I have tried to keep track of the membership. Many presenters at the VAS meeting are not members, as required by the rules. Presenters were to have paid their dues by the fifteenth of May.

COUNCIL ACTION: Art Burke noted that the Executive Committee had passed a resolution to establish a policy of requesting dues at the time that titles, are sent in, with the proviso that if dues are not paid, the abstract will not be published. He then moved that the Council endorse this motion. His motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Carolyn reported that VCU is establishing a \$2000 scholarship to be awarded to a member of the Virginia Junior Academy of Science who will be attending VCU.

d. Secretary, Joseph Rudmin: No Report

e. Treasurer Greg Cook: Absent

f. Executive Secretary-Treasurer Blanton Bruner (with Arthur Burke, Jr.)

Art Burke reporting: Blanton is having problems with his knees, although he is mentally sound. Blanton will retire in July, at which time Art Burke expects to take over his duties, serving without pay, and assisted by Lisa Martin.

g. 1994-5 President Elsa Falls:

Elsa reported that she and her husband enjoyed representing the Academy at the banquet of the Virginia Science Museum, and has also had the pleasure of

communicating via email with Dr. Steve Negus in preparing for the current meeting.

h. 1993-4 President Jim O'Brien:

Motion: At the March meeting of the Council, Jim O'Brien requested a leadership retreat in the Fall of 1996. The motion was made to give Jim the go-ahead to arrange this retreat. The motion was seconded and approved. Following this was a discussion about disposing copies of the book "The James River Basin". Jim reported that the Book Press Limited of Williamsburg has agreed to retail the book at \$50/copy, with half the price being returned to the Academy. The Academy on its part agrees not to permit the book to be sold to the general public at less than \$50.

i. 1992-3 President Golde Holtzman: Absent

5. Local Arrangements Committee Reports

- a. 1996, VCU, Chair Tom Haas: Absent, but undoubtedly busy.
- b. 1997, Virginia Tech: John Hess and Tom Sitz: getting judges

6. Directors and Representatives Reports

- a. Junior Academy of Science, Don Cottingham:
- b. Visiting Scientist's Program, Jack Cranford, absent.
- c. AAAS Representative, Ertle Thompson:
- d. Science Museum of Virginia, Trustee Vera Remsburg:

The Museum has been given 18 acres and a house on the James River at Lock Lane. The fundraising campaign has reached 27 M\$ of its 30 M\$ goal. Renovation of the grounds will be completed next year. In the meantime, the VAS needs to tread lightly and skillfully to maintain our interests.

e. Jeffress and Gwathmey Memorial Trust Allocation Committee, Richard Brandt.

7. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Archives Committee, Golde Holtzman, absent.
- b. Awards Committee, Robert Johnson, absent, Carolyn Conway reporting: No nominations for special awards were received this year.
- c. Constitution and Bylaws, Co-Chairs Michael Bass and Gerald R. Taylor: No report.
- d. Environment Committee, Chair Michael Bass: no report.

e. Finance and Endowment Committee, Co-chairs Arthur Burke and Paul Homsher: Art Burke reporting:

The budget is currently in arrears, but receipts may well exceed expenditures during the coming year. The Academy is financially sound.

f. Fund-raising, Chair James O'Brien: see above.

g. Junior Academy of Science, Chair Don Cottingham. absent.

h. Long Range Planning, Richard Brandt, absent.

i. Membership, Scott Newton and John P. Morgan absent.

j. Nominations and Elections Committee, Golde Holtzman, absent.

k. Publications Co-Chairs:

i. Virginia Journal of Science, Editor James H. Martin

ii. Virginia Scientists, Editor Greg Cook.

l. Research, Judy H. Niehaus, absent--report read by J Rudmin

The Research Committee is pleased to fund 6 proposals for Small Projects Grants. The recipients are Dr. Rafael O. de Sa of the Univ. of Richmond, Dr. Eugene G. Maurakis and Dr. William S. Woolcott of the Science Museum of Virginia, Ms. Laura P. McDonald and Dr. Jack A. Cranford of Virginia Tech, Dr. Orion Rogers of Radford Univ., Dr. Heide Scrable and Ms. Wendy Siemon of Charlottesville, and Ms. Nikita Warty and Dr. Charles L. Rutherford of Virginia Tech. The winner of the J. Shelton Horsley Research Award for 1996 is Dr. Khidir W. Hilu from Virginia Tech for the paper "Phylogenetic Construction with matK: Walking Along the Gene", which will be presented in the Botany Section.

m. Science Advisory, Chair William L. Dewey, absent.

n. Science Education, Co-Chairs Thomas G. Teates and Maurice P. Lynch absent.

o. Trust, Rae Carpenter, Jr.: Finances are in good shape. We are pursuing the idea of transferring some of our funds to a smaller fund than Investment Company of America.

p. Virginia Flora, Chair J. Rex Baird absent.

8. Special Committee Reports

a. Futures, Chair Rae Carpenter, Jr.

b. Public Affairs, Chair Ralph Eckerlin

c. 75th Anniversary, Chair Golde Holtzman absent

9. Section Representatives Reports

a. Aeronautical and Aerospace Sciences, no report.

b. Agriculture, Forestry, and Aquaculture, no report.

c. Archaeology, no report.

d. Astronomy, Math, and Physics. Gerald Taylor: AM&P had a full program.

e. Natural History and Biodiversity. Ann Lund: Biodiversity had 19 papers, one poster session and one invited speaker. The invited speaker is Teta Kain, an ornithologist, speaking on "Plover Paradise: Barrier Island Nesting Surveys." Most abstracts have been submitted.

f. Biology, Carolyn Conway:

g. Biomedical Engineering, Bill Harrison: Our section is getting increasing requests for computer-controlled LCD projectors.

h. Botany, Marion Lobstein: Botany is having a hard time getting papers due to increased internal and external competition for people's time.

i. Chemistry, no report.

j. Computer Science, no report.

k. Education, no report.

l. Environmental Science, Mike Bass:

m. Geography, Gerald Taylor reporting: Geography will beat the bushes to improve participation.

n. Geology, no report.

o. Materials Science, no report.

p. Medical Sciences, no report.

q. Microbiology and Molecular Biology, Tom Sitz reporting: We had five papers, and expect more next year.

s. Psychology, Jim O'Brien: Papers are coming in.

t. Statistics, John Morgan: We have received six titles for the meeting.

10. Old Business

Marion Lobstein brought up the following resolution:

VAS RESOLUTION REGARDING EQUITY OF TEACHING CREDIT AND TEACHING LOAD FOR SCIENCE FACULTY TEACHING LABORATORY COURSES

At the 1995 VAS annual meeting a resolution supporting the importance of laboratories in science education received unanimous support of Academy members. However, at most public and many private colleges and universities in Virginia, teaching credits for laboratory teaching is often only given one third to one half that of lecture experience. The credit hours of science faculty teaching loads are often much higher than that of colleagues in other disciplines. Such inequity of teaching credit and teaching loads of science faculty at these institutions does not reflect the importance of the laboratory experience.

RESOLUTION

In Association with other scientific groups and organizations, the Virginia Academy of Science strongly supports the concept of equity of teaching credit and teaching loads for faculty teaching laboratory courses. The laboratory experience is an integral and critical component of science courses. Teaching loads and credit afforded to faculty teaching laboratory courses should reflect equity relative to that of faculty in other disciplines.

COUNCIL ACTION: The Council endorsed the following resolution and approved its submission to the Academy Conference.

11. New Business

12. Concluding Remarks, President Tom Sitz: None

13. Adjournment was at 7:41 pm.

Virginia Academy of Science Academy Conference
74th Annual Meeting, May 23, 1996
Room 1164, General Purpose Academic Building, VCU Campus

President Tom Sitz opened the Conference at 4:45 pm. He recognized Tom Haas, chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, and thanked Tom, the LAC, and the VCU staff for a job well-done. He reported that in response to a request by James Poland, VCU will establish a scholarship of \$2000 to be awarded to a VJAS graduating senior. John Hess (Past director of the VJAS) and Tom Sitz are the local arrangement Chairs for next year's meeting, which will be held at Virginia Tech, May 20-23, 1997, along with the help and guidance of Golde Holtzman.

Finance and Endowment Committee Report: Arthur W. Burke, Co-chair of the Finance and Endowment Committee, issued a report stating that the finances of the Virginia Academy of Science are in good order, and that the Academy is solvent.

Nominating Committee Report: Golde Holtzman, chair, introduced the new officers of the Academy. They are Dean Decker--President, Harold Marshall--President-Elect, Carolyn Conway--Vice President, Judy Niehaus--Secretary, and Darcy Mays--Treasurer.

Awards Committee Report: Robert Johnson, chair, announced the student awards winners.

New Business:

Marion Lobstein reported to the conference that the Council had endorsed the following resolution, and approved its submission to the Academy Conference.

VAS RESOLUTION REGARDING EQUITY OF TEACHING CREDIT
AND TEACHING LOAD FOR SCIENCE FACULTY
TEACHING LABORATORY COURSES

At the 1995 VAS annual meeting a resolution supporting the importance of laboratories in science education received unanimous support of Academy members. However, at most public and many private colleges and universities in Virginia, teaching credits for laboratory teaching is often only given one third to one half that of lecture experience. The credit hours of science faculty teaching loads are often much higher than that of colleagues in other disciplines. Such inequity of teaching credit and teaching loads of science faculty at these institutions does not reflect the importance of the laboratory experience.

RESOLUTION

In Association with other scientific groups and organizations, the Virginia Academy of Science strongly supports the concept of equity of teaching credit and teaching loads for faculty teaching laboratory courses. The laboratory experience is an integral and critical component of science courses. Teaching loads and credit afforded to faculty teaching laboratory courses should reflect equity relative to that of faculty in other disciplines.

After extensive discussion, the resolution was unanimously approved by the Academy membership present at the Conference.

The Conference adjourned at 5:30 pm.

**Minutes of the May 24 1996 Meeting
of the Executive Committee
of the Academy Council
of the Virginia Academy of Science**

University Student Commons, Alumni Association Board Room, Virginia Commonwealth University, 8:30 am, May 24, 1996

Members Present: R. Dean Decker (President), Harold Marshall (President-Elect), Carolyn M. Conway (Vice President), Judy Niehaus (Secretary), Darcy Mays (Treasurer), Thomas O. Sitz (Immediate Past President).

Others Present: Arthur W. Burke, Jr. (Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer), Gerald Taylor (Co-Chair, Constitution and Bylaws Committee), Joseph W. Rudmin (Outgoing Secretary), Larry Snedden, (photographer), D. Rae Carpenter (Trust Committee), Michael Bass, (Co-Chair, Constitution and Bylaws Committee) Vera Remsburg, Golde Holtzman, Richard Brandt, William Hanson, Ertle Thompson.

Members Absent: Donald R. Cottingham (Director, Junior Academy of Science).

The meeting commenced at 8:30 am.

1. Introductions: Participants introduced themselves.
2. Adoption of the agenda: This practice is herewith discontinued.
3. The minutes of the May 22 meeting were not available.
4. Officers' Reports

a. President, Dean Decker:

i. Changes in the ECL Miller Science Club Award: Wednesday evening, the Junior Academy Committee made some changes in awards. The ECL Miller award, a \$50 prize was given to the science club which had the best record of activity. Science clubs are no longer active within the Academy. There were no applications for the ECL Miller Award this year. Besides this, there was an award for science club sponsors, and the VAS has been giving a teacher award of \$200 from the budget. The VJAS Committee has recommended combining these and increasing the award to a \$500 teacher award. The South Carolina Junior Academy gives a teacher of the year award which is an all-expense paid trip to the AAAS AJAS Meeting. Recipients have told me that this was one of the most exhilarating experiences they have had. The VJAS Committee accordingly decided to establish the ECL Miller Teacher of the Year Award, which would consist of expenses to the AAAS annual meeting. The existing funds for the previous three awards have been budgeted items totaling \$450. If the AAAS meeting were in Baltimore or DC, this would cover the registration, room and travel. It wouldn't cover a meeting in Seattle. But the committee knows where the meeting is each year to budget a sufficient amount in advance. We propose to budget this annually into the Junior Academy Budget. No VAS approval is needed.

Art Burke said that the award should be a fixed amount, say \$500, with the teacher keeping or paying the difference, provided they attend the meeting. Joe Rudmin replied that a teacher would not go if he or she had to pay hundreds of dollars to go to the meeting. Rae Carpenter: There should be a fixed fund, from which the awards are taken, taking it out of the annual budget. But the amount would not be highly flexible. Dean Decker said that the Junior Academy should go ahead with the award, and seek to get the award endowed later. Joe Rudmin suggested that the Academy simply put an upper limit on the award. If the meeting were in Hawaii, there would be no award that year. Tom Sitz asked if there might be alternative meetings to an expensive meeting? Art Burke asked where the next meeting would be. Ertle Thompson replied that the next one was Seattle, then Philadelphia, then Anaheim. Art Burke said that there should also be a standing committee of the VJAS whose work was to monitor the award and make sure that it was used and not abused. Rae Carpenter commented that if the award got up to \$1200 the Academy should ask if honoring the teacher was as beneficial as saying giving a student a scholarship to college. Dean Decker said that since the proposal came from the Junior Academy Committee, it constituted a motion which needed no second. "We need to vote it up, down, or amend it."

VJAS Committee Motion: The VAS Teacher Award, Sponsor Award, and ECL Miller Club Award should be combined to create the ECL Miller Teacher of the Year Award, it being an expense-paid trip to the AAAS-AJAS Annual Meeting.

Jerry Taylor noted that the Constitution and Bylaws Article XI, section C, require the Director of the Junior Academy to prepare a budget and submit it with the VJAS Committee recommendations to the Academy Finance and Endowment Committee by September 1. He moved that the recommendation of the VJAS committee should go through the established budgeting process, and that action by the Council be tabled until November when this action will have been carried out.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION: The motion to table the previous motion until November was made, seconded, and approved.

ii. Appointments to be recommended to Council:

Chair of the Trust Committee--Rae Carpenter for 3 more years.

Gwathmy & Jeffress Trust Representative: Elsa Falls

Virginia Science Museum Trustee: (3 names have been submitted to the Science Museum)

Editors of the Virginia Journal of Science and the Virginia Scientist: James Martin and William Cunningham (Tidewater Community College). Visiting Scientist Program: Jack Cranford

Executive Secretary-Treasurer: Blanton Bruner

Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer: Art Burke

iii. There was some discussion about changing the schedule of duties to be more workable. This will be handled by Dean Decker, Carolyn Conway, and Lisa Martin.

iv. VJAS Scholarships Awarded by Schools: Dean Decker recommended appointing an ad hoc committee to create some guidelines for handling these, since the number is growing. The committee will consist of Jerry Taylor, Tom Sitz, and Carolyn Conway.

v. New name for the VJAS Distinguished Service Award: The Ad Hoc Committee to make recommendations for this will consist of Rae Carpenter, Vera Remsburg, and Ertle Thompson.

b. President-Elect: No report.

c. Vice President, Carolyn Conway, No report.

d. Secretary, Judy Niehaus, No report.

e. Treasurer, Darcy Mays, No report.

f. Immediate Past President, Tom Sitz: We are seeking to have UVA host the annual meeting in the year 2001.

g. Virginia Junior Academy of Science Director, (absent)

5. Executive Secretary Treasurer, Art Burke reporting: No report

6. Local Arrangements Committee Reports

a. 1996, Virginia Commonwealth University, Carolyn Conway: No report.

b. 1997, Virginia Tech, Tom Sitz: "Everything is on track."

7. Old Business None

8. New Business

a. The VAS and the Science Museum of Virginia: Rae Carpenter said that the relationship between VAS and the SMV needs to be handled carefully. He reported that the problem of storing Journals and copies of "The James River Basin" may have been solved by transferring them to another institution in the Richmond area. If not, then we will be dealing with the SMV when storage becomes a problem. This will be difficult due to the pressures caused by renovation. Dean Decker said that he would be talking with Walter Witschey about the problems this summer. Rae said that the museum officers have been supportive and generous. Vera Remsburg said that Walter attended the academy banquet in a convivial spirit. She said that he noted the graying of the Academy. Vera expressed agreement with Walter, that more young people need to be recruited. Gerald Taylor said that he had invited Walter Witschey and Betty Blatt to the banquet. He recommended that Rae Carpenter be present during any discussions with Witschey due to his continuity and the mutual trust between Rae and Walter. The relationship between the VAS and SMV is of mutual benefit. Richard Brandt felt that the VAS should seek to recover its lost half-time position at the SMV which was authorized by the legislature. Both Richard and Gerry cautioned against having informal discussions with Walter without Rae being present.

9. Concluding Remarks: None

10. Adjournment was at 9:37 am.

**Minutes of the May 24, 1996 Meeting
of the Academy Council
of The Virginia Academy of Science**

May 24, 1996, Virginia Commonwealth University, 74th Annual Meeting Student Commons Alumni Association Board Room, 9:30 am

Present: R. Dean Decker (President), Harold Marshall (President-elect), Carolyn M. Conway (Vice President), Judy H. Niehaus (Secretary), Arthur W. Burke, Jr. (Finance and Endowment Committee, Ass't Exec. Sec-Treas), Thomas O. Sitz (Immediate Past President, 1997 Local Arrangements Committee), Elsa Q. Falls (Second Past President), James P. O'Brien (Third Past President, Fund Raising Committee), Gerald R. Taylor (Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Astro. Math, and Physics), Golde I. Holtzmann (Archives Committee, 75th Anniversary Committee, Nominations and Elections Committee), Richard B. Brandt (Long Range Planning, Gwathmey and Jeffress Trusts Rep.), William Harrison (Biomedical & Engineering), Paul Hansher, D. Rae Carpenter, Jr. (Trust Committee), Vera B. Remsburg (Science Museum of Virginia Trustee), Ertle Thompson (AAAS/NAAS Rep.) Joseph W. Rudmin (Outgoing Secretary, Membership Committee).

The meeting commenced at 9:30 am.

1. The participants introduced themselves.
2. Adoption of the agenda is herewith and hereafter discontinued.
3. The minutes of the May 22, 1996 were not available for approval.
4. Officers' Reports
 - a. President, Dean Decker

COUNCIL ACTION: The appointment of Rae Carpenter to another three-year term as head of the Trusts Committee was moved, seconded, and approved.

COUNCIL ACTION: The appointment of Elsa Falls as representative to the Gwathmey and Jeffress Trusts Allocation Committee Representative was moved, seconded, and approved.

COUNCIL ACTION: The appointment of William Cunningham as Editor of the Virginia Scientist was moved, seconded, and approved.

The continuation of Jack Cranford as Director of the Visiting Scientists Program was reported. There was some discussion of the program.

Jim Martin has agreed to serve as editor of the Journal for another year and has been reappointed.

COUNCIL ACTION: Dean Decker reported that the recommendation of the Executive Committee is to continue the present situation of Blanton Bruner as Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and Art Burke as Assistant Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the time being. At the end of June, Blanton Bruner's salary will cease, and Art Burke will continue to serve without pay. The reappointment of these two people was moved, seconded, and approved.

A tentative Schedule of Events was distributed and discussed. Carolyn Conway said that the scheduling of nominations needs to be reworked.

Following this was a discussion on how to increase the student participation in the VAS Banquet at future meetings. Joe Rudmin suggested reducing the cost of the Banquet to less than that of eating in a restaurant.

Next was a discussion about improving attendance at the May Council meetings. Ertle Thompson said that moving the Wednesday meeting to the evening had adversely affected attendance, because many members were working on awards committees which had to deliberate at that time. Elsa Falls said that having the meeting in the afternoon excluded Council members who were judges and session chairs. Dean Decker said that compounding the problem was the decrease in the number of active VAS members. There are fewer people trying to cover more jobs, and this creates conflicts. Council members should avoid over-committing themselves. Jerry Taylor said that the Academy needs to bring in more young people. This is discouraged, because the state doesn't recognize Academy service as a creditable activity. Ertle Thompson said that one avenue for bringing in these younger members is through inviting them to be Junior Academy session chairs and judges. He said that the Council should meet Wednesday afternoon, leaving the younger faculty to handle chairing and judging. The more senior members could then participate in awards selection in the evening. Jim O'Brien said that more Committee Chairs should be appointed among the Section Counselors and Chairs, to bring them into the active circle. These chairs and co-chairs should be educated concerning their responsibilities, and should be encouraged to get at least one thing done with their committee. Joe Rudmin suggested that committee chairs be phoned prior to the meeting, asking them to attend. Richard Brandt said that he did this when he was president. Jerry Taylor suggested putting the committee chairs' names in the agenda. Dean Decker asked this to be postponed to Old Business in the November meeting.

Dean Decker appointed an ad hoc committee to establish guidelines to implement scholarships awarded by colleges to VJAS members. This committee consists of Jerry Taylor, Tom Sitz, and Carolyn Conway.

The Distinguished Service Award for the Junior Academy has no name and could be named to honor a past member of the Academy. Dean Decker appointed an ad hoc committee to make recommendations to the Council concerning naming

this award. The ad hoc committee consists of Vera Remsburg, Rae Carpenter, and Ertle Thompson.

- b. President-Elect, Harold Marshall, no report.
- c. Vice President Carolyn Conway.

Carolyn noted the absence of many awardees at the Academy Conference. She suggested that this ceremony be dropped, and that the awards simply be mailed to the recipients. Bill Harrison suggested that the senior sponsors should instruct the recipients to attend. Tom Sitz said that the Negus lecture is the highlight of the meeting, and attending it would be a good experience. Bill Harrison noted that even the numerous VCU students did not attend. Jim O'Brien said that the awards winners in the Education section were simply announced at the end of the presentations. He felt this was a good practice, and that recognitions at the Academy Conference be restricted to those present. Carolyn says that the problem is the timing and gathering the information. She suggested trying procedures one more time as is, with more emphasis on instructing the sponsors to encourage participation. Joe Rudmin said that he thought that many Academy members think that the Conference and the Negus lecture are only for the inner clique. He felt that a line should be added to the program saying "Will ALL members of the Academy please try to attend these events." Carolyn Conway asked for email suggestions.

- d. Secretary, Judy Niehaus: No Report
- e. Treasurer: Absent

f. Executive Secretary-Treasurer Blanton Bruner (with Arthur Burke, Jr.): absent At the Academy Conference, he issued a written report stating that the finances of the VAS are in good order and that the Academy is solvent.

- g. Second Past President Elsa Falls:

Elsa raised the question of publicizing the Academy Conference Resolution on Teaching Credit and Teaching Equity for Science Faculty Teaching Laboratory Courses. Tom Sitz said that he would take care of this. Elsa noted that the Richmond Times Dispatch front page carried an item about a pseudo-science conference at UVA, but did not mention the VAS-VJAS meeting. Carolyn replied that this was a slip up by the public relations office at VCU.

Elsa expressed dismay at the poor attendance by Council members of the Council meeting. Carolyn replied that in many sections which had only Thursday meetings scheduled, the councilors had left. Those with Friday meetings were at those meetings. Some sections actually ran concurrent sections to avoid a two-day schedule. Joe Rudmin noted that Committee Chairs weren't present either. Committee meetings were scheduled from 8:15 to 9:15. He asked if any of those committees met.

5. Local Arrangements Committee Reports

- a. 1996, VCU, Carolyn Conway:

For the Senior Academy, there were 250 pre-registered, and about 100 on-site registrants. For the Juniors, about 500 registrants stayed in the dorms, about 400 others came, and 60 paid parents and about 200 free parents. Dean Decker said

that the unregistered people created a shortage of programs. Tom Sitz suggested printing an extra box of programs to mitigate this problem. Joe Rudmin suggested printing up extra sheets consisting of a schedule of events and a map might help.

COUNCIL ACTION: The Council recognises, the local arrangements committee, Carolyn Conway, Tom Haas, and VCU for a job well-done. Tom Sitz said he would send a thank-you letter to President Trani.

b. 1997, Virginia Tech: Tom Sitz said that everything is in good shape. Dean Decker reminded the Council that Richard Rutan is the invited speaker.

6. Directors and Representatives Reports

a. Virginia Junior Academy of Science,

Dean Decker reported, that the VJAS was well-represented at the national meeting in Baltimore by Bryan Green of Arlington High School. Ertle Thompson said that several of the papers would do credit to a university professor and that they deserved more public recognition.

b. Visiting Scientist's Program, Jack Cranford, absent.

c. AAAS Representative, Ertle Thompson: It was another great meeting. I cannot give enough accolades to Brian Green, who was the VJAS award winner.

d. Science Museum of Virginia, Trustee Vera Remsburg: absent

e. Jeffress and Gwathmey Memorial Trust Allocation Committee, Richard Brandt.

We just had the May meeting, and there will be a report in the Journal. The Jeffress award has six renewals of about \$10,000 each, and there were 32 new grants applied for of which 20 were funded, more than usual, because the stock market performed so well this year. The amount of money in the Jeffress exceeds \$300,000. For the Gwathmey, there were 39 requests, and about \$200,000 was allocated to 23 proposals. The academy would be well-advised to seek funding from the Gwathmey fund to support a history of the Academy. This should be in the neighborhood of \$10,000. Contact Sam Gillespie for more details. Dean Decker, at Jerry Taylor's suggestion, said that he would appoint Jerry Taylor, Golde Holtzman, and Vera Remsburg to be an ad hoc committee to look into getting a Gwathmey grant, before November, to complete the history of the Academy.

7. Standing Committee Reports

a. Archives Committee, no report.

b. Awards Committee, Carolyn Conway: The deadline for nominating fellows is Oct 1. As many as two may be awarded. It is the responsibility of the membership to nominate people. Nomination letters signed by 3 VAS members are required.

c. Constitution and Bylaws, Co-Chairs Michael Bass and Gerald R. Taylor: The Constitution and Bylaws are in good shape. In November we will consider the modifying the selection process for Chair of the Research Committee. Recommendations are welcome. Dean Decker asked this to be brought up in November Old Business.

d. Environment Committee, Chair Michael Bass: Mike reported that Richard Collins is the director of the new Center for Environmental Negotiation at UVA. Joe Rudmin added that the JMU Geology department is launching a BS in Environmental Science.

e. Finance and Endowment Committee, Co-chairs Arthur Burke and Paul Homsher: absent.

f. Fund-raising, Chair James O'Brien:

Our pledges range from ten dollars to five thousand. We have sixtyseven donors, and total pledges are \$29580, of which over \$12,000 has been received. We are seeking support from other organizations, starting with the American Association of Naval Engineers. We are also trying to develop a fund for a VJAS Associate Director.

James River Basin: The Book Press in Williamsburg is willing to sell the book in the store and in the catalogue for \$50, of which \$25 would be returned to the VAS, provided the Academy agree not to permit sale of the book to the public elsewhere for less than this. Joe Rudmin said that he believed that the consensus of the earlier meeting was that we should try this for a year and see how the sales go. The Council gave Jim the go-ahead to make arrangements.

g. Junior Academy of Science, Chair Don Cottingham. absent.

h. Long Range Planning, Richard Brandt, no report

i. Membership, Scott Newton and John P. Morgan absent.

There was some discussion about instituting emeritus membership, and the new brochure for membership was distributed.

j. Nominations and Elections Committee, Jim O'Brien: We will perform our duties earlier this year.

k. Publications Co-Chairs:

i. Virginia Journal of Science, Editor James H. Martin absent

ii. Virginia Scientists, Editor absent

l. Research,

The Research Committee is pleased to fund 6 proposals for Small Project Grants. The recipients are Dr. Rafael O. de Sa of Richmond, Dr. Eugene Maurakis and Dr. William S. Woolcott of the Science Museum of Virginia, Ms. Laura P. McDonald and Dr. Jack Cranford of Virginia Tech, Dr. Orion Rogers of Radford, Dr. Heidi Scrabble and Ms. Wendy Siemon of Charlottesville, and Ms. Nikita Wary and Dr. Charles L. Rutherford, of Virginia Tech. The winner of the

J. Shelton Horsley Research Award for 1996 is Dr. Khidir W. Hilur from Virginia Tech for the paper "Phylogenetic Construction with matK: Walking along the Gene", which will be presented in the Botany Section.

m. Science Advisory, Chair William L. Dewey, absent.

n. Science Education, Co-Chairs Thomas G. Teates and Maurice P. Lynch absent. Tom Sitz reported that he has asked the committee to address the problem of pressure by fundamentalists groups to teach creationism in biology classes.

o. Trust Committee, Rae Carpenter, Jr.

The Trust Committee's report was distributed. Highlights of this report were that the trusts total \$435,368, up 6.7% since December. A breakdown by fund was given.

p. Virginia Flora, Chair J. Rex Baird absent.

8. Special Committee Reports

a. Futures. The Futures Committee has expired.

b. Public Affairs, Chair Ralph Eckerlin absent

c. 75th Anniversary, Chair Golde Holtzman, Stickers for cars and windows displaying the 75th Anniversary Logo were distributed. We give our thanks to Nancy Patterson and George Lobstein for originating them. We will produce the history which we have been working on for four years, and distribute it at the meeting. There was discussion about the Junior Academy T-shirts.

9. Section Representatives Reports

a. Aeronautical and Aerospace Sciences, no report.

b. Agriculture, Forestry, and Aquaculture, no report.

c. Archaeology, no report.

d. Astronomy, Math, and Physics. Gerald Taylor: AM&P had a full schedule and good attendance.

e. Biology, Carolyn Conway: We had a full day, and the papers went well.

f. Biomedical Engineering, Bill Harrison: We had a good meeting.

g. Botany, Marion Lobstein: There is a problem with overlap of Botany.

h. Chemistry, Tom Sitz: Chemistry had a full slate and a successful meeting.

i. Computer Science, absent.

j. Education, absent.

k. Environmental Science, absent:

l. Geography, absent

m. Geology, absent.

n. Materials Science, absent.

o. Medical Sciences, Richard Brandt: Medical Sciences had 35 papers.

p. Microbiology and Molecular Biology, Judy Niehaus: We met!

q. Natural History and Biodiversity, absent.

r. Psychology, Jim O'Brien: A full meeting, and everything was fine.

t. Statistics, John Morgan: absent

10. Old Business, none.

11. New Business, none.

12. Concluding Remarks, none.

13. Adjournment was at 11:30 am.