

Minutes
Board Meeting MI-ASM
October 7, 2006
Lansing Community College, West Campus

Meeting started at 2:30 pm

Members present: Kris Baumgarten (Educational Chair), Mary Ann Cardani (President-Elect), Daniel Clemans (Past President), Mike Cohen (Corporate Liaison), Ralph Gorton (Website Maintenance), Mike Huband (Alternate Councilor, Treasurer), Alan Hudson, Don LeBlanc (President), Paul Pagano, Silvia Rossbach (Secretary), Jeff Ram (Spring Meeting Organizer), Mike Ryan (University and College Liaison), Sonia Tiquia, Jim Vandebosch (Newsletter Editor), Judith Whittum-Hudson (Councilor)

Members Absent: Debra Hanna (Treasurer)

The Minutes of the July 19, 2006 meeting were approved with minor changes.

Poster boards: Eleven easels are available at Wayne State. New poster boards would cost \$16. We would have the funds, but it does not seem to be practical if MI-ASM buys its own poster boards because of transport and storage problems. Thus far, we always came up with the facilities. Probably, Jeff will buy 3-4 foldable foam boards that can be used for poster hanging. Ralph will ask abstract submitters what their requirements are or will warn them that they need hard backing for their posters in order to put them on the easels.

Funding through National ASM: The funding proposals due to the national ASM are fairly generic. It is important to send them in at all and on time. It is being considered to ask for funds to build a DVD library based on the speakers' talks at fall and spring meetings.

Update on Spring Meeting 2007: Jeff Ram, together with the local committee consisting of Melody, Judith, and Alan will organize the spring meeting at Wayne State University. The topic will be "Bioterrorism". Possible titles suggested include "How to take the 'bio' out of 'terrorism'", or "Frankenstein Bugs – are we ready?". The last meeting with the same topic was held in spring 2000. It was discussed to have more than three speakers. Possible speakers include Ron Atlas and Ted Cieslak (Background info added by Silvia from http://www.marketaccess.org/bio_cieslak.asp "After several years at USAMRIID, COL Cieslak left in 2001 to become the Chairman of the San Antonio Military Pediatric Center (the combined Departments of Brooke Army and Wilford Hall Air Force Medical Centers). COL Cieslak remains active, however, in the area of Biowarfare and Bioterrorism defense, and serves as Consultant to the Surgeon General on these matters. He has lectured widely on various aspects of Biodefense and Disaster Response and has worked with the Department of Defense, as well as the intelligence agencies, the CDC, various State Health Departments, and myriad other organizations on such issues." It was also considered to ask Phil Gerhardt for advice for possible speakers.

The Wayne State local committee will meet in the next three weeks and is soliciting names of speakers. Please e-mail names of possible speakers to Jeff. Judith mentioned Olaf Schneewind and Phil Hanna as possible speakers, too. Also, the ASM website can be checked for Waksman speakers. The booking of speakers will go through the local committee. For the afternoon, Jeff suggested a possible workshop with standardized patients illustrating some diseases. Two patients would cost ~\$500. The suggested date for the spring meeting is April 14. It was discussed to have a Friday evening program or a mixer for students, especially because the students with longer travel times will be in town already. At past meetings, speakers have enjoyed interacting with the students. The timing could be: 5 – 8 pm mixer for students and speakers, 7 pm board and speaker dinner. Further planning of the social event and the dinner will be done by the local Wayne State committee.

Ralph mentioned the problems we have because many people register late and we will run against the deadline necessary for the food order. It was suggested to have a registration deadline, after which the registration price increases. The local committee will decide this.

Fall Meeting 2007: Debra and Mike Huband promised to organize the fall meeting, Mary Ann volunteered as well (thank you all!). Locations to be considered include Traverse City. A joint meeting with the Wisconsin branch is also possible

Other Remarks: Judith reminded us that only for students who are presenting posters the registration fees are waived. Faculty and postdocs should be paying registration fees, even if they present posters.

The names, addresses, phone numbers, and ASM member numbers from the registration lists are freely viewable on the web. The lists should be moved behind a password protection.

Meeting adjourned: 3:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia Rossbach