

Meeting of the MI-ASM Board

Date: March 20, 2021

In Attendance via Zoom: Laura Harris (president), Skip Price (president elect), Jonathan Finkle, Chhabi Govind, Jared Geller (webmaster), Penelope Higgs, Josh Thompson, Sara Blumer-Schuetz (secretary)

1. The board congratulated Joshua Thompson on a well run annual meeting!
2. Josh Thompson thanked Jared Geller for his technical assistance in running the annual meeting, and his work running the MI-ASM website. Jared indicated that he is willing to continue on as our webmaster and technical guru.
 - a. There was discussion among the board about revamping the meeting registration process. Jared G. mentioned that he will look into it for next year.
3. At the 2021 annual MI-ASM meeting, the general membership unanimously elected Penelope Higgs as the 2021 - 2022 President Elect. Current President Elect, Skip Price will assume the presidency on July 1, 2021
4. The board thanked Laura Harris for her service the past two years as President!
5. Skip announced that next year's meeting will be held at Western Michigan University, with Ben Koestler (WMU, Dept. of Biological Sciences) hosting. The expectation is that the meeting will return to an in person format
 - a. A question was raised on whether or not MI-ASM meetings would still alternate between northern and southern parts of the state. Our member from LSSU is not able to host a meeting in the near future, so a northern Michigan meeting is unlikely without faculty participation from MTU or NMU.
 - b. Discussion was then held on the possibility of either recording annual meetings or live streaming them for universities that are farther away from the meeting site. It would be unlikely that speakers would agree to their talks being recorded, given that unpublished data may be shared. The board agreed that live streaming future meetings would be beneficial.
6. Five presentation and poster awards for national ASM membership were awarded this year to undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral presenters. There was a brief discussion on the financial status of MI-ASM, which is good according to our treasurer. National ASM provides funds to run the annual branch meetings which we didn't spend much of in a virtual format.
7. New board members, Chhabi Govind (Oakland University) and Jonathan Finkel (University of Detroit Mercy) were unanimously approved by the board.
8. Our incoming president announced that we will hold board meetings in August and December of 2021, and one following the annual meeting in 2021

Meeting adjourned 4:19pm