

**Minutes of the MI-ASM Board Meeting
June 20, 2005
Sheraton Hotel Lansing, MI**

Members present: Mary Ann Cardani (University of Michigan-Flint), Dan Clemans (Eastern Michigan University), Michael Cohen (Pfizer), Silvia Rossbach (Western Michigan University), Mike Ryan (Central Michigan University), Sonia Tiquia (University of Michigan-Dearborn), Jim Vandenbosch (Eastern Michigan University), Judith Whittum-Hudson (Wayne State University)

Guest: Jim Rudrik (Michigan Department of Community Health)

The meeting was called to order by the president, Silvia Rossbach at 6:15 pm. She introduced Jim Rudrik and our board members.

Minutes from April 2, 2005: Mike Cohen asked that the term 'Corporate Sponsors' be changed to 'Corporate Partners' on page 2. The minutes were corrected and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Cohen gave the report for the new treasurer, Debra Hanna. The balance in the account on June 15, 2005 was \$21,630.45. Of this total, \$8,000 represents Gerhardt funds. Mike Cohen added that Pfizer will contribute \$2000 for the two Pfizer board members (Mike C and Mike Huband). Mary Ann Cardani turned in two additional checks from late registrants.

Secretary's Report: There were 122 people in attendance at the April 2nd meeting at Delta College. Mary Ann mentioned that several attendees were walk-ins. We obtained their names and registration fees, but do not have any other information about them for our membership list. The names of these attendees are Brian Adamski, Ashley Keeling, Kavir Ranjeeta (EMU), Francis Briguglio, Kalen Hebner, Erica N. Hoffmann, Lauren Pershon (CMU), Elka Chamberlain (EMU), David Noyes. Please contact the secretary if you can provide information on affiliation, addresses and e-mails for these people. In the future, all walk-ins must fill out registration forms.

We had many posters at the Spring meeting. The large number of posters made the judging more difficult. For future meetings, posters should be placed in an area where attendees can easily view them and adequate time for viewing and judging the posters must be allotted.

President's Report from Branch Officers' Meeting in Atlanta:

Funding: Silvia reported that we our branch will receive \$2000 from National ASM.

National ASM collection of Branch dues: National ASM has a new initiative. They can now collect membership dues for an ASM branch when they collect the dues for national membership. A list of new members would be sent to the branch each month and the branch dues collected by national would be sent to us once every 3 months. Judith

pointed out that we will have to register our student members at our branch meetings since most do not belong to national ASM. She also suggested that we send out membership reminders to our branch members. Currently there are 71 MI-ASM members who are not national ASM members and 47 who are. National dues are collected in the Fall for the following year. At our branch meetings, members also pay in the Fall for the following year. If an attendee pays in the Spring, those dues are for the current year.

The Board voted to participate in this process, provided it does not alter our tax exempt status. The information about the new method for paying dues should be included in our newsletter.

Other information from National meeting: Silvia noted that Mike Schmidt presented some Meeting Planning software. This software would be available to ASM branches. Jeff Ram of MI-ASM is also working on some organizational software that we might use for meeting planning.

Interest in archived material was also expressed at the National meeting. MI-ASM archives are held in the Luther Library at Wayne State University.

Fall Meeting: The Fall Meeting on New Perspectives and Paradigms in Environmental Microbiology will be held October 8, 2005 at the Fairlane Education Center on the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus. The featured speakers are Dr. James Tiedje from Michigan State University, Dr. Matthew Fields from Miami University of Ohio and Dr. Darrell Chandler from Argonne Laboratories. Waksman Foundation Speaker, Dr. Kim Finer from Kent State University will present a workshop for microbiology educators. Sonia Tiquia, Dan Clemans and Silvia Rossbach are in charge of the meeting plans. Sonia has arranged for 2 classrooms to be used for the workshops. Each can hold 40 people. She has made arrangements for the food service, poster displays and hotel accommodations. The schedule for the meeting was hammered out and can be viewed at the MI-ASM website.

The Fall newsletter: The newsletter should be completed in early September. It is especially important to reach community college educators since the workshop is directed at microbiology education. Judith recommended that rather than send the newsletter electronically, we send out postcards directing people to the MI-ASM website. Dan lobbied for increasing interest in branch membership by getting microbiology educators more involved.

Spring 2006 meeting: The tentative sponsor is National Sanitation Foundation. Sue Bagley has expressed a desire to work with MI-ASM in the area of microbiology education. Perhaps Sue could do a workshop at the Spring meeting. Jeff Ram will also participate in planning the meeting.

Employment postings: After a discussion of the benefits and drawbacks of participating in the national ASM Employment Posting, members voted unanimously against it. We

will maintain our own job posting site. Mike C proposed that we can post a link to the National site and possibly to the State website.

Electronic Communications: No report; Ralph Gorton was absent. The Board voted unanimously to extend a hearty thank you to Ralph for his dedication and outstanding work in maintaining the MI-ASM website. Ralph has created a superb site for us and updates it regularly. Your talent and excellent work are sincerely appreciated, Ralph.

Corporate Liaison: No update to report.

Education Chair: No report. Members discussed dividing the duties of this office. Kris could cover Community colleges; Jeff Ram, Medical Schools; Mike Ryan, undergraduate and graduate institutions. Jim suggested that Peggy Liggett from EMU might take on the K-12 education.

Mike Ryan suggested that we might add a link on our website to the Van Andel Research Center in Grand Rapids for more outreach. We could also include tabs linking to university sites that post relevant seminars and speakers.

Other business: Silvia had listed Jeff Ram as alternate councilor for Branch 13. Mike C pointed out that Mike Huband is serving in that role. Silvia will contact national ASM with the correction.

Jim Rudrik from MDCH told the Board that he is concerned that there will be a shortage of clinical microbiologists in the near future. He is interested in finding ways to promote clinical microbiology education. In an attempt to support Clinical Public Health education, he would like to sponsor 2-3 week internships with MDCH. Medical technology students, and microbiology students are potential candidates. Jim's lab could accommodate about 15 students/yr. Mike Ryan asked for a written description of the internship. Jim will send this description to Silvia.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.