

MI-ASM Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 09 Aug 2019

Present on Call: Laura Harris, Penelope Higgs, Skip Price, Sara Blumer-Schuetz, Erin Uhelski

1. 2020 MI-ASM Annual Meeting at UD Mercy
 - a. Theme: Biofilms
 - b. Date for the 2020 annual meeting have changed due to room scheduling by UD Mercy
 - c. Sara has email lists for advertising, will also contact Anne Dempsey (National ASM) for broader Michigan coverage. Using other social channels like Twitter or Reddit to advertise was also mentioned.
 - d. The idea of reaching out to undergraduates was discussed, consensus was that PIs will encourage undergraduates to present or attend MI-ASM meetings
 - e. There was additional discussion about organizing a larger, regional (tri-state), ASM meeting in the future. The regional meeting could also include Canadian universities that are close by.
 - f. It was agreed that the 2021 MI-ASM meeting should be held in the north of Michigan
2. Erin Uhelski was introduced as the ASM Young Ambassador to Michigan
 - a. Erin's mandate is to reach out to younger, early career microbiologists
 - b. She will start with Michigan State, and will expand to foster cooperation among statewide undergraduate microbiology clubs
 - c. Discussion was held about the status of many microbiology clubs in Michigan, appears that many are now inactive
 - d. There are funds available from ASM for undergraduate biology clubs. Clubs need not be only "microbiology" clubs to benefit, they must meet once per month in the academic year, and two of those meetings need to be microbiology focused.
3. Awards for early career scientists are also available with funding from National ASM
 - a. Up to three Peggy Cotter travel awards are available for MI-ASM members who are not already officers
 - b. Student travel awards are also available
 - c. Applications are due by January 2020 for awards
 - d. There was discussion on how to go about encouraging early career scientists in MI-ASM to apply, will include details in the advertisement for the annual meeting
4. Funding for poster or talk awards was discussed
 - a. National ASM has funds that they disburse by district. The district holds the money and each region requests the award funds from them. These funds are meant to supplement prizes. Applications to the district are due in November. Each region usually can request up to ~\$1800
 - b. The National ASM student research fellowships were also mentioned as another award that undergraduates can pursue
5. MI-ASM civic action
 - a. MI-ASM is reaching out to Lansing representatives on microbiology related topics
 - b. National ASM also supports civic action, and may sponsor travel to meet with national representatives, senators
6. Next board meeting is tentatively set for November 2019

Meeting was adjourned at 11:32pm