

**Michigan Branch ASM
Board Meeting Minutes, December 8, 1994**

Attendees: R.H. Bell, J. Saunders, M.A. Cohen, M. Jackson, S. Gracheck, S. Sonstein, J.L. VandenBosch, J. Detloff, J.C. Sesnie, H. Hayashi, M. Wolcott, C.D. Jeffries, C. Pierson, J.F. Eisses, and J.A. Seiter.

1. There were no minutes to approve from the last meeting.
2. J. VandenBosch (Secretary) reported that the Branch Membership list was being updated in preparation for submission to the national ASM and that it would be ready for the mailing for the spring meeting. The national ASM has asked for each branch to appoint a Branch Membership Coordinator and that the appointment be for three years. It was decided that the Alternate Councillor would be so appointed.
3. The last two branch meetings were discussed and the following recommendations made for future meetings:
 - a. costs must be announced in the mailings
 - b. mailings need to be made earlier
 - c. organizing committees of 3-4 people are best
 - d. the Foundation speakers are excellent
 - e. establish a pattern of
 - i. Spring Meetings on Friday for academics
 - ii. Fall Meetings on Saturday for industry
4. M. Jackson (Treasurer) reported that the last meeting was attended by 47 people bringing in \$675 and raising the balance to \$3,617.55. It was noted that a better system is needed to membership dues. Food for the Spring Meeting was \$524. W. LeBar has been effective in bringing in corporate donations, including \$1,000 from Merck.
5. J. Eisses (Councillor) reported that his sense of the branch officers meeting in Las Vegas had been that the trend was to nationalize the branches. In this scenario, the national would collect the dues and distribute them to the branches.
6. J. Sesnie (Educational Chair) announced that M. Jackson's student had won the travel award to the Spring Meeting in Las Vegas. It was announced that the national ASM doesn't support local science fairs any more, but does at the national level. The idea of the branch supporting the 7 science fairs in Michigan was discussed. A recommendation was made to provide a \$25 award in each of the fairs for projects in microbiology.
7. C. Jeffries (Historian) reported that Fred Rights died last year before Christmas.
8. Corporate membership letters have been sent out again by W. LeBar.
9. If anyone comes across published misconceptions about microbiology they should be referred to M. Cohen (Public Relations) to respond to the media.
10. Brenda McCurdy (Clinical Relations) reported by phone.
11. H. Hayashi (Biotechnology) suggested the formation of discussion interest groups at the meetings.

12. S. Sonstein (University Relations) led a discussion on the branch becoming more involved in undergraduate student education.
13. R.H. Bell and J. Seiter (Publications) reminded the Board that it was decided last May that the Scope would be discontinued and that the Focus would remain as the sole publication by the branch. Submissions for the next issue of the Focus should be to J. Seiter by 13 January 1995 for publication at the end of the month. The January 1995 edition will focus on the Spring Meeting. A postcard announcement of the meeting will be sent in March.
14. The Spring Meeting was discussed. It was decided to have the meeting in Lansing due, in part, to its central location. The theme of the meeting should revolve around environmental microbiology. J. Detloff introduced and led a discussion of having special sessions on undergraduate microbiology education and the involvement of faculty from the state's community colleges. S. Sonstein agreed to investigate a day-long session on technology. A target date for the meeting was set as March 25. C. Pierson, as President-elect, will chair the organizing committee.
15. The 1995 elections will be for President-elect and Treasurer. Nominations should be in by the end of the year. The past president, M. Lefford, chairs the nominating committee.
16. The National Education Workshop - Microcosms Program was discussed. If the Branch covered \$1,500 for an ASM member attendance at the week long session in Boston, the ASM national would then pay a matching \$1,500 for a pre-college teacher from the area.
17. The next meeting date was set, tentatively, for 8 June 1995.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. VandenBosch,
Treasurer