

MI-ASM Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 22 November 2019

Present on Call: Jared Geller, Laura Harris, Skip Price, Sara Blumer-Schuetz, Josh Thompson, Erin Uhelski

1. Jared Geller (Devenport) was introduced as the new MI-ASM webmaster. Any additions to the website should be sent to him: jared.geller@davenport.edu
 - a. Modernization of the MI-ASM website will be a capstone project for Jared. Laura proposed forming a long term relationship with Davenport University to use the branch website as a part of the capstone course
2. MI-ASM 2020 Meeting Planning
 - a. Plenary Speakers: Robert Burne (U Florida), Alex Rickard (U Michigan) and a fungal biofilm speaker TBD
 - b. Funding is in place for the ASM distinguished lecturer
 - c. Advertising the meeting: Erin and Josh are advertising MI-ASM 2020 at Michigan universities (MSU, UM, WSU), Sara has sent out a save the date to MI-ASM membership
 - d. Erin proposed more visible advertisement of Microbe 2020 at the branch meeting, given that Microbe 2020 is in Chicago, IL
3. MI-ASM 2020 Abstracts
 - a. Laura has \$40 gift cards from last year's meeting that can be used for poster and oral presentation prizes this year
 - b. Discussion was held on setting dates for abstracts to be considered for talks vs. posters. Suggestions were March 15th for poster presentations, and the end of February, or first week of March for oral presentations.
 - c. It was also noted that at last year's meeting, seven attendees registered on site and brought posters to present. This is a common occurrence with annual meetings, and discussion also included adding last minute attendees into the space required for posters.
4. Registration costs for MI-ASM annual meetings
 - a. An idea was brought to the board that onsite registration, including students presenting would be charged a higher registration fee
 - b. In the past, late registrations were charged \$5 more
 - c. Annual meetings have moved away from a nominal registration fee, and have recently taken into account the cost of the meeting & food and the expected number of attendees
 - d. Josh expects to have projected costs and tentative registration fees by January 2020
 - e. Erin proposed a lower registration fee for national ASM members. Discussion then included how current MI-ASM dues are included in the registration fee for the meeting, we could move to a system where members pay their branch dues with their national dues and would enjoy a cheaper registration rate as a result.
 - f. The board was supportive of Laura approaching Anne Dempsey in regards to including MI branch dues being collected by ASM. This could also increase the visibility of the branch among national ASM members in Michigan
5. ASM Branch Funding Proposals
 - a. Skip inquired if MI-ASM was going to submit a proposal to acquire branch funding this year. The deadline is November 30th, Laura will act as point person for the branch to submit a proposal
6. Peggy Cotter Travel Awards
 - a. Travel awards are now posted on the front page of the MI-ASM website
 - b. Deadlines for applicants are now February 14th

- c. Discussion was held in regards to branch-specific criteria for awardees. The annual meetings could include presentations from Peggy Cotter travel award winners on the work they are preparing to present at the national meeting.
7. State of Michigan student chapters
- a. MSU and UM Ann Arbor both have active student chapters
 - b. Wayne State historically had a student chapter
 - c. Status of MTU or GVSU chapters is unknown. Ebenezer Tumban would be the potential contact at MTU

Meeting adjourned 3:19pm. Minutes taken by Sara Blumer-Schuetten.