

STC – EC Meeting – Houston, TX  
April 5, 2019

**1) Persons in Attendance:**

Latha Vasudevan  
Erich Fruchtnicht  
Tracy Tipping  
William Pate  
Otu Inyang  
Linda Morris  
Janet Gutierrez  
Matt Amen  
Jay Poston  
Sandra Ramirez  
Billie Harvey  
John Hageman  
Sylvia Revell - Guest  
Melissa Hageman - Guest

**2) Meeting Convened**

Quorum established and meeting officially convened at 6:32 pm.

**3) Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of September 10, 2018 meeting distributed and reviewed by group. Motion to approve made by Tracy Tipping. Second by Erich Fruchtnicht. Minutes were approved with corrections.

**4) Reports Made**

**Past President (Amanda):**

- No report

**President's Report (Latha):**

- September 10-11<sup>th</sup> meeting and affiliates fair at Granbury was a tremendous success.
  - More than 65 people attended.
  - Welcome reception for vendors and other members on Sunday before the meeting was well received. It helped with the registration early so that everyone could attend the meeting the next day.

Tracy Tipping (President-elect) commented on the fact that STC-HPS should consider having a welcome reception the previous night for all future affiliate meeting.

- National HPS president-elect visit was well talked of. (They liked the STC-HPS token gift). Wife's comment was no other Chapter had showed this kind of hospitality. President-elect Eric Goldin (during the HPS midyear meeting) emphasized that our chapter had the most members during the meeting.
- Meeting info and details published in Billet and also HPS newsletter.
- Comanche peak tour was outstanding. Members were thankful for that opportunity. CEU credits were received for the tour.
- Affiliates gift giveaway iPad was the highlight

- Past-president plaque to be given away during the meeting- Thank you Karen Blanchard for making that happen.
- Thank you Tracy Tipping for getting our own STC-HPS table runner. Much appreciated. One more item from my wish list taken care of.
- Thank you Otu Inyang for assisting with the venue for this meeting. Thank you Tracy for putting together the agenda.
- Charter final version (Susanne Savely revised it in 2017). Amanda/Jennifer may have the final version that they submitted to national HPS.
- Nomination letter for Bob Cherry to be submitted to HPS before May 1<sup>st</sup>. Sandra to be submitting the draft for us to review and submit
- Chapter report will be submitted to the national HPS- William Gordon still showing as webmaster- need to correct.
- Public relations chair –Janet has withdrawn from that commitment last year. However, I was providing submissions for billet and HPS. I will continue to perform the functions.
- Legislative Committee- Do we need to keep this committee now that Bobby Janecka has already withdrawn. When did this committee commenced? Need to include in ByLaws if we continue. John Hagemen recommended reaching out to Alisha Stallard. Linda Morris will find out if she is interested in serving in this role.
- Alana’s invoice for the Billet and Website
  - Seems she built a new site last year. Follow up. Still not resolved? Do we need to discuss alternate options?
  - John Hageman is going to reach out to Alana to see status of the new website
- Linda and Latha participated in Texas Science and Engineering Fair at Texas A&M and handed over our Chapter Plaque and \$50 check for the winner
- July HPS meeting-Orlando. I will take over the responsibilities as HPS Board of Director. Directly responsible for our chapter as well as three additional chapters (Deep South, North Eastern New York, Northern California). Also will be responsible for academic education committee, international collaboration committee and science support committee

Thank you EXEC team for your great support and cooperation!

The following questions from Sep meeting minutes still unresolved.

Question: STC-HPS Charter not transferred over to President? Is that a tradition?

- Request from Alana the link for the “test” website and all EC members will provide feedback
- Develop “instructions” for each position and what they need to do each year; wants to provide an official letter to each oncoming EC board member with position responsibilities.

### **President Elect Report (Tracy):**

- The annual student presentation meeting came together very smoothly. Thank you to Otu Inyang for organizing the venue related items for the meeting (Sandra and Billie provided some assistance as well). Thanks to Will for handling meeting registrations and dealing with all the weirdness that was thrown at him. We had a huge response from students wanting to present. So there is a full schedule. 25 presenters with 18 different presentations. One downside is that due to the number of student participants, there is a large number of non-paying participants. We will likely not break even with this meeting.

### **Secretary's Report (William)**

- Billie moved to certify the results; Sandra seconded; results are certified. Matt Amen was elected as President-elect, Erich Fruchtnicht was elected Treasurer-elect, and Otu Inyang was elected as Board Member.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- We have money. Very brief summary of the financials:
  - More than \$20,000 in checking
  - Two money market accounts with Chase (\$4,000 and \$5,000)
  - December 31<sup>st</sup>: Lincoln 3 annuities each at \$10,000
  - The Edward Jones account is at \$171,043.32.
  - Chase checking account               \$15,229.57
  - Chase scholarship account       \$5,123.29
  - Chase science teachers           \$3,993.91
- All invoices for the April meeting have been paid and/or reimbursed to those paying out of pocket.
- The Federal Taxes were filed on May 14, 2019. The due date was May 15, 2019 (not April 15, 2019 like for us working folks).
- Tracy made a comment about some people not being able to pay with PayPal;

### **Affiliate Report:**

1. Affiliate Members to Date – 12 paid, 2 honorary – SWRI & TSTC
2. Affiliate Meeting – please let me know information so that I can get donations, vendors to participate/speak, etc.
3. April 2019– Will email out reminders again for those who have not paid

### **The Billet Report:**

- Discussion on future meeting dates- Meeting to be held on 9/23 in Dallas, TX at UT Southwestern. Next student meeting in 2020 will be held at Texas A&M, with exact date to be determined upon reviewing the school schedule. Perhaps in September 2020, we would have a regulatory conference, but we need to verify DSHS support.

### **Student Assistance Committee Report:**

#### **2019 Science & Engineering Fair Participation**

The STC participated in three fairs this year: Houston, Dallas, and the Texas State Science & Engineering Fair. The first two fairs were regional fairs conducted in February. The STC was registered to participate in the Austin fair, but there were not any appropriate projects, so no award was made. The Texas fair, sponsored by the School of Engineering at Texas A&M (for the first time), took place last week.

1. Science & Engineering Fair of Houston: STC members Stan Bravenec and Otu Inyang judged this fair. Taking first place was Yasmin “Jenna” Jackson with her project entitled “Coal Ash: Testing the Effect of Fly Ash on Radiation Soils at Texas Coal Power Plants.” She also won last year and was nominated for the national HPS Science Fair award which she won. She will be presenting her project tomorrow. The second-place winner is Alexandra Tan from Ball High School in Galveston. Alexandra’s project is titled “Mitochondrial Effects of High Energy High

Charge (HZE) Irradiation on the Liver.” She also won the State STC award at last week’s fair in College Station. Alexandra will also be here tomorrow.

2. Dallas Regional Science & Engineering Fair: Sylvia Revell and Matt Amen judged this year for the first-time participation by the STC. They made two awards and an Honorable Mention.

First Place went to “Determining Bone Health Utilizing Visible Light” by Sophie Krajmalnick from Shepton High School in Plano, TX. Second Place went to the team of Aryan Karthik and Rishi Leburu from Heritage Middle School in Frisco, TX. Their project was titled “The Effect of Non-Ionizing Radiation on Plant Cells.” The Honorable Mention went to Hannah Menter from Robinson Middle School in Plano, TX. Hannah’s project was titled “Radish vs. Radiation – Effect of Microwave Radiation on Radish Seedlings.”

3. Texas State Science & Engineering Fair was judged by Linda Morris and Latha Vasudevan on March 29<sup>th</sup>. The winner was Alexandra Tan. As noted in Item 1, Alexandra received our 2<sup>nd</sup> place award at the Houston Fair.

We hope to add the Alamo (San Antonio) fair next year. Thank you to all of our judges!

### Student Presentations

Thank you to Tracy for lining up a good group of students for presentations tomorrow. Since we have no associate degree students participating, it is requested that that award be divided up between the more populated degree groups. Also, judge volunteers are requested. The judging packets are available at this meeting.

### Student Travel Grants to National HPS Conference in Orlando

It is requested that we again allocate funds to help our student members who will be traveling to the Orlando HPS meeting with assistance from the HPS. We normally provide \$250-\$500 per student based on the number of students traveling.

### 2019 Education Grants

We will again be presenting \$1000 checks to the winners of STC-HPS Education Grants. We will be presenting an undergraduate, graduate, and possibly an associate degree grant. I would like to request a few minutes to address students tomorrow about the grants.

### Status of TSTC RPT Program

The TSTC administration is going to close out the RPT which began in the mid-1970s. The students currently in the program will be allowed to complete the program. The last semester will be Fall 2019. It is therefore possible that there might be a candidate for an education grant.

### Nuclear Power Institute

Considering an RPT Associate’s degree through an arrangement between A&M and TEEX.

**CEU Committee:**

- Doug Johnson & Karen Blanchard has reviewed the agenda and at least 6 hours will be awarded, perhaps more based upon closer review of content
- Amanda to send list of people to Doug who requested CEU

**Legislative Affairs Committee Report:**

- Linda discussed SB 1021; considering eliminating curie caps and structured fees. Doing a lot of stuff to try and make WCS more competitive. In committee now; really won't impact us too much except that our prices may decrease.

**Membership Chair (Amanda):**

- Currently at 115 members;

	Category	2019	Comments	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
1	Honorary Lifetime Memberships	3	Hageman, Poston, Morris	3	1	2	2	2
2	Individual Memberships	88		105	117	111	116	130
3	Student Memberships	10		12	11	62	10	11
4	Science Fair Winners	0		2	3	2	0	2
	Sub-Total	101		122	115	176	127	143
5	Affiliate Memberships	14		16	15	23	22	22
	Total	115		138	135	199	149	165

(Numbers of 2019 Members, above, includes New Members listed below)

**New Members**

Wishert	Ben	Regular
Margot	Dmitri	Student
Cuthbert	Thomas	Student
Hernandez	Soleil	Student
Chavez	Ana	Regular
Dor	Kervens	Regular
Mariano	Craig	Regular
Ford	Michael	Regular

Approval of new members: Billie made a motion to accept new members. Tracy seconded the motion. All voted in favor of accepting the new members.

**Nominations Committee (Sandra):**

- Been really tough to get people to be willing to step up into a position. Need to work really hard on getting the newbies to participate in chapter leadership. There was discussion about adding to the

membership application a question asking if anyone would be willing to serve in a leadership role on the EC. An existing question was edited in the application to ask this question.

**Other Business:**

- Bylaw Revision: The review of the bylaw revision has been tabled for discussion via a conference call to be held at a future date.

**5. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Erich Fruchtnicht

Second: Janet Gutierrez

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.