

Minutes of the ASEF-PSOM Executive Council Meeting
Tuesday May 24, 2016, 2:00-3:30
John Morgan Building, Room 149

Present: Peter Bloch, Howard Goldfine, Joel Greenberg, Susan Heyner, Sue Kramer, Rob MacGregor, Anna Meadows, Vicki Mulhern (FAPD), Jeanne Myers, Kayvon Nikoo (FAPD), Yvonne Paterson, Brian Salzberg, Marvin Steinberg, Peter Wilding

Absent: Stanley Baum, Fred Henretig, Virginia LiVolsi, Jim Saunders, Anita Summers (PASEF), Jamie Wheeler, Don Young

The meeting was called to order by Jeanne Myers at 2:05 pm.

Minutes of the April 26th council meeting were approved.

April 27th Spring Program Recap: Myers talked about our very successful April Distinguished Speaker Program that featured Jean Bennett; the talk took place in BRB auditorium and afterwards there was a catered reception in the decorated lobby. Choosing a high profile speaker for this program had always been a concern, and in some years, attendance was lower than expected. This year the speaker was democratically selected (1st, 2nd, 3rd choice) by each council member from a list of faculty researched by Macgregor, Henretig and Wheeler, together with several additions proposed by other council. Jean Bennett received the most votes, and Salzberg personally extended council's invitation. Myers commented that the publicity blitz on many fronts worked well in bringing ~120 people to the talk. She thanked the above members for their work on the program, and also Heyner and Kramer who helped with the reception. Nikoo gave a brief power point presentation of the pictures he took at the event, for which council thanked him.

Membership Ballot for Council Positions: A ballot had been E-distributed to all ASEF-PSOM and Meadows stated that we have two new at-large council members, Fred Frankel (Microbiology) and Ana Lia Obaid (Neuroscience). Peter Bloch (Radiation Oncology) will be president-elect in 2016-17.

Parking Survey/ Luncheon Seminars & Events: Goldfine reported on the ASEF-PSOM Membership E-Parking and Event Survey and the tally handed out to Council. There were 44 responses, the majority wrote that they attend luncheon seminars but not as many come to special lectures and social events. 26 respondents use private transportation. The survey showed that the choice was almost split between the Faculty Club and BRB locations for seminars, but offering lunch in BRB had not been mentioned in the survey. It was decided that now paid parking should be offered (and lot arrangements made) to the PSOM new retirees in the personal invitations to their 2016 Fall celebration. Several on council didn't think the parking arrangement

was important, but Myers said that it was a deserved courtesy, a small measure of consideration, and the money negligible. She also had the sense from corresponding with honorees the last 2 years that they would appreciate the offer and it could only help their attendance. Goldfine and other members agreed.

Goldfine said that several issues need to be addressed for the luncheon seminars: 1. speaker/topic, 2. location, and 3. time of year. Myers pointed out that the BRB second floor location for the Berger and Healthy Aging talks and luncheons drew very good audiences and the TIAA presentation there too was overbooked, whereas two of the three luncheon seminars at the Faculty Club had poor attendance of less than 10 people which is not acceptable for arranging the events or asking speakers to take their time to prepare talks. Kramer asked if the 3 BRB lecture rooms (above the BRB lobby) were clearly the best choice and can we afford to provide lunch? Meadows commented that lunch costs for seminars are trivial, “only” \$3,000 for 6 lunches (and another ~\$800 for SOM charges.) Myers disagreed with this being a minimal expense based on actual figures and expenses (see below Budget section).

Administrative Report: Mulhern reported on the data from the University of Cincinnati. She said it was the most comprehensive information she had received; the contact was Karbert Heauther, the former President of the University. Their program involves retirees across the whole University, including librarians and administrative staff. The Emeritus designation is not automatic, and they charge a minimal fee (\$10.00). Meadows commented that people who pay even a minimal amount feel they are a part of the organization. It was pointed out that both PASEF (but see below) and the Medical School Dean have opposed any dues.

E-mail and Library Privileges for Associated Faculty (AF) Retirees: Myers asked Mulhern for an update in the ongoing process that ASEF council has advocated for the administration to restore E-mail to the medical school AF retirees (research and academic clinicians). She also asked about terminated electronic library access, of which she was just made aware of by a retired research faculty member who is trying to finish writing a manuscript and can't conduct searches or download papers. Myers questioned how these retirees, whose E-mail was terminated, are going to be made aware that their accounts will be reactivated? Mulhern said they are continuing to work on these issues and hope/expect they should be resolved by September.

Budget: There was a spirited discussion regarding the budget. Myers asked if there were questions on ASEF funds and wanted to make it clear how the small 11K budget impacted the programs we were able to sponsor. She stated that 10% of this budget since moving from Penn Tower (PT) is now needed for phone, internet, and the housekeeping/security/facilities charges for the SOM rooms used for the 2 parties (before held in PT with no charge). The total cost of the recent April 27th Spring Program alone was \$1.8K, 8 council lunches = 2K, the Emeritus event 2.3K (of 4.1K

total with PASEF paying 1.8K in 2015), food/wine for 2 parties = 2.5K, 0.6K for the cultural event, and other charges such as the AROHE meeting expenses and registration (1.5K). Together these total 12K. Therefore no lunches for seminars could be afforded in the former 11K budget (some lunch funds this year were available in the absence of the biannual AROHE meeting in 2015) but they should be accommodated in the 15K 2016-17 budget the Dean approved after seeing the itemized expenses we presented in March (with seminar lunches as an item).

Wilding said that if we want a larger budget we have to lay out a plan for more inclusive and innovative programs and then request money from the Dean. Myers replied that the present increase was the first in the 11 years of ASEF, and another in the near future was unlikely. 15K does not seem to be a limiting factor for the programs we have the time to arrange and the membership to attend.

PASEF Report: MacGregor read the highlights of Summers' report of the final PASEF meeting of the year, supplemented by Myers who was present. PASEF has 3 new council (Keene, Meyer and Segre). Summers commented on the development of the Speakers Bureau underway in late Spring; 15K in funds were approved by the provost in replacement for initiating a Lifelong Learning program. Council congratulated Summers along with a gift of appreciation for her work this year as president. In response to a question on the budget, Summers stated it was 35K (plus salary for their 20h/wk coordinator). However, a motion was presented instituting annual PASEF dues, which did not receive majority approval.

There was an extended discussion on expanding PASEF from only standing faculty to include associated faculty (that ASEF recognizes in our membership). The idea was not received favorably by most of the PASEF executive council and was voted down for possible future discussion. Wilding commented that when institutions widen their membership ignoring hierarchy, the outcome was usually highly favorable. Steinberg stated that new leadership might allow greater interaction between the two groups. All agreed that ASEF remain independent, but that we should integrate as much as feasible with PASEF. Kramer commented that we must have collaboration over seminars and other programs. We could talk to the new president of PASEF about alternating seminars, at least not being in conflict.

ASEF-PSOM Space: Myers said it is now clear after 2 years of continuous meetings and correspondence with medical school administration that ASEF is not getting new space (or certainly not any time soon). Neither are we moving from AC236 into the John Morgan office adjacent to the Wood Room which was promised unequivocally to us (Myers, Goldfine and Steinberg) a year ago in person by Glen Gaulton and followed up in writing. Part of the [Gaulton E-mail](#) was read, *"In our meeting, we discussed your upcoming relocation from Penn Tower to the heart of the School of Medicine campus – the John Morgan Building. The ASEF headquarters will relocate*

from its current location on 21 Penn Tower to Anatomy Chemistry 236 (temporary location) at the end of the summer. By the end of 2015, ASEF will move to newly renovated space on the second floor of the historic John Morgan Building. While I will no longer serve as Chief Scientific Officer after June 30, I have communicated the above plan to Jon Epstein (also cc'd here). He and our colleagues in Space Planning will continue to work with you on providing the best space available for ASEF."

In the last few months there were obvious delays/excuses in ASEF moving to JM in response to requests. In fact, the Spring Party was planned for the Wood Room to combine this event with faculty seeing the expected and furnished adjacent ASEF room with its door opened to visitors. Myers has been corresponding with Dorothy Leung (executive assistant to Epstein) but there was diminishing evidence of an actual space plan. Then Epstein, at our council meeting, stated that ASEF space in the medical school library on Hamilton Walk was being pursued and we were *again* encouraged that a good outcome might be forthcoming. Myers said there was no question that we believed it to be a respectable and viable room on the first floor that our emeriti faculty would be pleased to utilize and spend time on campus, but instead "the space" turned out to be in the *basement*, apparently a small student study room outside the journal stacks. The entire area was permeated with formaldehyde smell from the zebrafish facility located nearby. Following E-mails to Dorothy stating this was unacceptable, an **E-mail from Epstein** was received and included the line *"it is best for ASEF to remain in Anatomy Chemistry until a more central location can be offered."*

Myers said the entire space situation represents a big disappointment in the administration's reversal, and these last developments were unquestionably the poorest. She regrets leaving the office without the administration promises to ASEF being kept but the Council members told her, kindly, that she has done as much as anyone could. Council thinks that the current Anatomy Chemistry space could be improved to provide a venue for meeting and working.

Kudos to you, Jeanne, for all the hard work and time you have put in.

The meeting adjourned for our membership **Spring Party** set up in the Wood Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Heyner, Ph.D.
Amended by Jeanne Myers