

Kansas Academy of Sciences Board Meeting
July 8, 2005
Aber Cabin, Lake Kahola

Attendance: James Aber, Mike Everhart, Johanna Foster, Sam Leung, Brenda Oppert, Shaun Schmidt, Larry Skelton, James Taylor. WSU: Kristie Bixby

After the board enjoyed a pleasant lunch provided by the Abers, President Mike Everhart called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

The board minutes of the March 18 meeting were amended to remove the word “slightly” from the Secretary’s report and then were approved (Motion by Skelton; second by Foster).

Treasurers Report: Brenda Oppert provided the updated report on KAS finances. Ending balances for the period of April to June, 2005:

Checking	\$28,429.10
Savings	\$ 8,952.25
CD	\$15,314.53
TOTAL	\$52,695.88

Brenda reported a net gain from the annual meeting of \$481.92 (Income \$4146.50 – Expenses \$3664.58). There was a brief discussion concerning the bonding requirements for the Treasurer. The Treasurer’s report was approved (Motion by Skelton; second by Foster)

Web Site Report: Sam Leung reported that the number of visits to the KAS website were down following the annual meeting, but are still looking good. The website experienced a record number of ‘hits’ (961) in February, prior to the annual meeting.

KJAS Request for AAAS Funding: Mike Everhart presented a request from Amy Strong for \$500 in funding to support student attendance at the national meeting of the AAAS. Request was approved (Motion by Skelton, second by Taylor) with instructions for the Treasurer to provide funds when requested.

OLD BUSINESS

Appointment of KAS board member: Mike Everhart introduced Shawn Schmidt (Washburn) and requested that the board approve his appointment as member at large (Class of 2007) as a KAS board member. (Motion by Oppert, second by Foster)

2005 Annual Meeting Report: Johanna Foster provided a summary of the 2005 Annual Meeting at Johnson County Community College and reported that 153 people attended the public talk on Friday evening. There were a total of 89 registrations for the meeting and 48 abstracts submitted. Forty-three people attended the Friday banquet and 58 were at the Saturday luncheon. The field trips on Friday afternoon were informative but attendance was poor. By all accounts, the meeting was a success, and Johanna was thanked for her work on the arrangements.

Update on digitizing the Transactions: Mike Everhart reported that a nearly complete set of volumes of the Kansas Academy of Science had been sent to JSTOR to be digitized and made available worldwide on the JSTOR website (generally available through university libraries). Although most of the volumes were donated from the KAS holdings (thank you, James Aber), others were donated by members or loaned (KSU).

Cancellation of agreement with Thomson Gale Group – Mike Everhart reported on the most recent communications with the Thomson Gale Group regarding the agreement between the KAS and TGG for sales of articles published in the Transactions of the KAS. Although TGG claimed that no royalties had been accrued by the KAS during more than four years under the agreement (and subsequent automatic renewal), they were willing to give the KAS \$500 to continue the agreement. Concerns had been raised about the sale of KAS publications (and memberships?!) on a number of websites, including Amazon.com. The consensus of the KAS board was to cancel the agreement at the earliest possible date for cause. (Passed on a motion by Skelton, second by Foster)

Status of the 2005 Student Grants: Mike Everhart updated the board on status of the KAS student grants that had been approved at the March board meeting. Checks were written by the Treasurer in June, 2005. Contact was made with all but one of the students and checks were mailed to those contacted. The check to the undergraduate (Travis Robb - \$250) has not yet been mailed.

With the departure of David Saunders, the KAS needed someone to take over the Student Grant program. Shaun Schmidt was nominated and agreed to update the process and application forms.

Report on the Fall 2005 Transactions – James Aber reported on the status of the Fall (Vol. 108, 3/4) issue of the Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science. Although there were some last minute changes, the volume will be 96 pages, including the abstracts from the 2005 annual meeting of the KAS.

Distribution of Spring 2005 issue of the KAST to board members: Mike Everhart provided extra copies of the Spring 2005 (Vol. 108, 1/2) issue of the KAST to the board members in attendance and suggested that they be used to promote membership in the KAS.

Spring 2006 annual meeting planning report – Kristie Bixby (WSU) updated the board on the plans for the 2006 annual meeting scheduled for April 7-8 at Wichita State University. Local arrangements and dates (call for papers, registration, etc) were discussed.

Designation of representative to the AAAS – Mike Everhart requested approval for board member Steve Palubicki to represent the KAS as its representative to the AAAS. Approved.

KAS Speakers Bureau – The creation of a KAS “Speakers Bureau” was suggested to replace the “Distinguished Speakers” program.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment to fill Board Vacancy – Hank Guarisco (FHSU) was appointed to the Board of Directors (Class of 2007). Mike Everhart will contact him.

Candidate for Vice President (2006) – The election of officers for next year (2006) was discussed and Michael Engel was suggested for the position of Vice President. James Taylor is to follow-up and provide a slate of officers for election.

President-Elect vacancy – Mike Everhart reported that the resignation of the current KAS president-elect, Greg Liggett, had created a critical vacancy (next year's president), and brought up the issue of naming a replacement. The By-Laws of the KAS indicate that the president can appoint members to fill all vacancies, except that of the president. Everhart suggested that Johanna Foster would make an excellent president for 2006. She accepted the appointment and it was approved by the board members in attendance. Congratulations Johanna, and thank you!!

Page charges for the Kansas Academy of Science Transactions – Mike Everhart brought up the issue of the current page charges for authors who publish papers in the Kansas Academy of Science Transactions. Everhart noted that some other journals apparently fund their publication costs differently and do not charge authors. He also suggested that since the KAS has been making money from the sale of papers through the Internet, that some costs could be absorbed by the royalties that are received. In addition, he suggested that the KAS should re-think its position regarding page charges in light of the fact that we are now in competition for papers that, if published in the KAST, would also provide a future income through royalties. James Aber noted that the page charges are minimal compared to some other journals and that he had not received many complaints in that regard. Discussion tabled, Everhart to provide further input.

Fall Field Trip – None scheduled this year, with the suggestion that the KAS list server be used to poll the membership regarding the desirability of having the Fall field trip and annual meeting field trips.

Date and Time for next Board meeting – The next board meeting was set for 5-7 PM, September 16 at Wichita State University. Kristie Bixby graciously agreed to host the meeting in order to give board members a better idea of the facilities available for the 2006 Annual Meeting. **(NOTE the board meeting was postponed, and rescheduled to December 9)**

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Everhart, President
Kansas Academy of Science