

March 18, 2013 P-IE Governing Council (GC) Meeting

Attendees: Adamczyk, Davis, Newton, Pendleton, Sparks, Thompson

Regrets: Rao; Siebert

Financial Update- Paula- two bills came through and were processed: IPM Voice (\$250) and Plant Management Network (\$500) annual memberships. The working estimate is about \$40k total available which would be the still undetermined new ESA allocation (~\$18,000) plus carry-over. There was discussion on how much to budget for the annual meeting and \$8,000 is the current estimate. If the goal is to carry over at least 10,000 rainy day funds, then we should have about \$5,000 to allocate to one of the pending projects. There is no IPM conference for the next 2 years which will free up some funds.

Governing Board Update- Stormy – There was no full Governing Board meeting since our last call but there was an executive committee meeting with minutes distributed. ESA National Headquarters update approved and renovation of the new lease site in Annapolis is underway. A Database of volunteers is set up. There was some general discussion about the usefulness of the database. The interface may need improvement and we need more links to it. We have about 85-90 total volunteers between the website, meeting or call in the newsletter. Only about 10 are from the online submission database. GC members were encouraged to try the database interface and to develop a list of improvements.

EPA SME Update – Dr. Whalon made a trip to EPA in late February and is working on his trip and expense reports.

Branch Activities – Bonnie presented our story board at the SWB opening session and it was well received. Stormy did the same at the SEB and P-IE also organized a special distinguished service award for Dr. Gene Reagan that was presented and well received at the SEB meeting. The story board was also sent to the International Branch but we have not heard back from them. Melissa did a lot of the work. Great job! We want to put this in the newsletter to make sure it is highlighted.

Section Symposium – All GC members submitted rankings for the 31 submissions to P-IE. We reviewed the diversity and relative rankings but did not change anything from the initial scores. Gary will request that we receive as many section symposia as possible since they were all high quality and relevant and therefore likely member symposia if not section anyway.

P-IE Networking Symposium – the theme was discussed and 2 of the 3 speakers have confirmed. John had a great suggestion for the third one which will be explored.

March Newsletter – We need to get the March Newsletter out as soon as possible to advertise Student Award Applications. Gary will try to have a draft by midweek.

Annual Goals – The annual goal list was reviewed and updated. Increasing the functionality of the website- The governing council was asked to go through the site and make recommendations. Gary is thinking of sponsoring a contest to improve the P-IE Section and the main ESA website. There will likely be several ideas to get to ESA central to get improvements. Do we have any information of what demographics about who uses the website to ask who might be the best to give suggestions? Each member asked to spend 10-15 minutes to look through the website and make suggestions. Survey monkey for what is working and what is not. We could add some website questions. When should we do it? Elections are in July. Probably need to do it soon, so that it does not conflict with other information. It can go out with the newsletter. Good way to reduce the email, but wait until April. Issue might be lack of awareness of what is in the PIE section. Blog idea is lukewarm.

Assignments: All GC review websites
Gary request website statistics
Gary start survey draft
All continue to think of the best way to use our limited flex funds and time

Approved: Joy Newton, Paula Davis, John Adamczyk, Gary Thompson, Bonnie Pendleton, Stormy Sparks