

## 127<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science

The University of Tennessee at Martin

Martin, Tennessee

17 November 2017

The annual meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science (TAS) was held at The University of Tennessee at Martin, 17 November 2017 with President Daniel Swartling presiding. President-Elect Sandy Mehlhorn served as the Program Chairperson and local arrangements coordinator. J. Allyn Smith is the Annual Meeting Coordinator. On Friday 17 November 2017 the meeting opened with registration and poster presentations in the Boling University Center. The annual business meeting was held in the Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center. Academy members were welcomed by Dr. Wes Totten, Chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geoscience and Natural Resources. The plenary session was moderated by Dr. J. Allyn Smith and titled "Highlights of the August 2017 Solar Eclipse." Panelists included Dr. Mary Kidd of Tennessee Tech University, Dr. Don Sudbrink of Austin Peay State University, Ms. Mitzi Adams of NASA-Marshall Space Flight Center, and Ms. Angela Adams of Austin Peay State University. Academy members enjoyed a luncheon in the University Center Ballroom. Afternoon technical sessionals were held in the Boling University Center and the Paul Meek Library.

### Annual Business Meeting 17 November 2017

Tennessee Academy of Science President Daniel Swartling convened the annual business meeting at 10:00 AM CST in the Boling University Center, Watkins Auditorium. President Swartling thanked the administration and members of the local arrangements committee from The University of Tennessee at Martin and introduced the Chair of the local arrangements committee President-elect Sandy Mehlhorn. Mehlhorn welcomed Academy members to the campus. A motion to suspend the reading of the minutes was made by J. Allyn Smith and seconded by Martin Stewart. The motion carried.

Managing Editor Rachel Rigsby announced work to complete an archival set of the *Journal* to be posted on the website. She also commented that efforts are underway to develop an ethics statement to allow the *Journal* to be listed in additional databases. The Academy is pursuing listing of the *Journal* in the Biodiversity Heritage Library. Rigsby concluded by announcing that the *Journal* welcomes submission of manuscripts.

Director Fred Matthews announced the location of the Collegiate Division meetings for 2018 (Pellissippi State-Eastern Division and Belmont University-Middle Division). Director Matthews asked for members communicate with him if interested in hosting a Collegiate Division meeting. Dr. Matthews noted that the number of paper presentations grows each year, and more than 25 schools were involved in 2017.

Director Preston MacDougall reported on the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science (TJAS) and announced that he was pleased that two delegates from the TJAS attended the 2017 meeting of the American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS). He expects to send three delegates in 2018 to Austin, Texas.

J. Allyn Smith made a motion to accept new members to the Academy, and the motion was seconded by Martin Stewart and carried. President Swartling welcomed new members and announced that names would be published in the *Journal*.

President Swartling presented a certificate to Gilbert Pitts who was elected as a Fellow of the Academy in 2016. Pitts has served as Director of Electronic Communications since 2011 and was President of the Academy in 2015. Pitts has served as TAS section chair and is a faculty member at Austin Peay State University. Accepting the certificate on behalf of Pitts was colleague and Past President Fred Matthews.

Chairperson of the Necrology committee Martin Stewart remembered TAS members that have recently died. Dr. Charles E. Magnuson passed away in September of 2016. Dr. Magnuson received a BA in Physics from Nebraska Wesleyan University in 1962 and an MS in Physics from SUNY Buffalo, New York in 1966. Dr. Magnuson taught physics at Carson Newman College in Jefferson City from 1966-1969. He continued to Texas A&M to earn a PhD in Physics in 1974. He was author or co-author of over 100 scientific publications. Dr. Mildred B. Perry passed away in September 2009. Perry received a BS in Chemistry and MS in Biology from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee. She served as a public-school science teacher in Georgia and Tennessee from 1965-1977. She earned a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 1983. Dr. Perry was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Conservation Educator of the Year and a TAS Fellow. Dr. Rubye P. Torrey passed away in October 2017. In 1968, Dr. Torrey was the first African-American woman to receive a PhD from Syracuse University. From 1988-2006 she was a Professor of Chemistry at Tennessee Tech University and served for many years as TAS section chair for Ethics in Science and Technology. Dr. Roy W. Clark passed away in May 2017. Dr. Clark received a BS from Middle Tennessee State University in 1956 and a PhD from Louisiana State University. Dr. Clark taught Chemistry at Middle Tennessee State University. Members of the Academy observed a moment of silence in recognition of the contributions of these scientists.

Treasurer Steve Murphree provided a summary of the treasurer's report which is published in full in the 16 November 2017 Executive Committee minutes. Treasurer Murphree reported on the successful use of Square® for payment processing in 2016. The informal audit from 2017 indicated no issues other than a few outstanding Academy checks.

Chairperson Preston MacDougall presented the following resolutions which were approved by the membership:

**Whereas**, Belmont University has generously hosted the Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science since April 2010, providing outstanding facilities, technological assistance, and lunch to high school students from across Tennessee; and

**Whereas**, as Treasurer of the Tennessee Academy of Science since 2003, Belmont University Professor of Biology Dr. Steve Murphree has also served as Treasurer for the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science; and

**Whereas**, annual financial auditing of accounts supporting both Academies were performed by Belmont University Professor of Accounting Dr. Tommy Wooten and his accounting students; and

**Whereas**, Belmont University has generously offered to continue hosting the Meetings of the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science, including its 76<sup>th</sup> Meeting in April, 2018;

**Be it resolved**, therefore, that the Tennessee Academy of Science makes official recognition of Belmont University's long and generous commitment to enabling the development of Tennessee's young scientists, and extends to Professor Steve Murphree this statement of appreciation for his careful and dedicated service to the Academies;

**And be it further resolved** that this statement of appreciation be appropriately inscribed and conveyed to Belmont University in care of Professor Steve Murphree, with a copy to be included in the official minutes of the November 17, 2017, meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science.

**Whereas**, the Tennessee Academy of Science is enjoying the most pleasant, profitable, and well-organized series of meetings at The University of Tennessee at Martin and

**Whereas**, the success of these meetings has resulted mainly from the efforts of the Chairs of the respective sections; the Local

Arrangements Committee Chair and President-elect, Sandy Mehlhorn; Local Arrangements Committee members Jessica Crews Garcia, Carrie Arant, Joey Mehlhorn, and Student Ambassadors from the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Annual Meeting Coordinator Allyn Smith; the 2017 TAS officers and Executive Committee, and from the recognition given the meeting by the local media and from the gracious hospitality of the host university,

**Be it resolved**, therefore, that the Tennessee Academy of Science expresses its sincere appreciation to these and all others who contributed to the success of the meetings.

Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee Fred Matthew submitted the following slate of officers for 2018: President-Elect Dr. Allyn Smith from Austin Peay State University, Secretary Teresa Fulcher, and Treasurer Steve Murphree. No additional nominations were presented. Mandy Carter-Lowe made a motion to accept the nomination. The motion carried.

Junior Academy of Science Director Preston MacDougall announced the recipient of the 2017 Distinguished Teaching Award, Christa Phillips of Houston High School, Germantown, Tennessee.

President Swartling presented a plaque of appreciation to Past President Fred Matthews with gratitude for his year of service to the Academy in 2016. To conclude the meeting, President Swartling passed the gavel to 2018 President Sandy Mehlhorn and she adjourned the meeting at 10:35 AM CST.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa L. Fulcher  
Secretary, TAS  
Pellissippi State Community College