

**Tennessee Academy of Science  
Executive Committee Meeting  
16 November 2018**

President Sandy Mehlhorn called the meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science (TAS) Executive Committee to order at 6:45 PM CST on the campus of Austin Peay State University (APSU) in the Iris Room of the Morgan University Center. Attendees were President-elect and Annual Meeting Coordinator J. Allyn Smith, Past President Daniel Swartling, Treasurer Steve Murphree, Junior Academy of Science Director Preston MacDougall, Electronic Communications Director Gilbert Pitts, Collegiate Division Director Fred Matthews, Publicity Chairperson Mandy Carter-Lowe, Membership Committee Chairperson Karen Kendall-Fite, and Necrology Chairperson Martin Stewart. A motion to accept the minutes from the April 2018 Executive Committee was made by President-elect Smith and seconded by Chairperson Stewart. The motion carried.

### Reports from Officers and Directors

*Past President*—Daniel Swartling submitted no report

*President-elect and 2018 Program Chairperson*—J. Allyn Smith welcomed everyone to Austin Peay and reported that students were working on placing parking signs and preparing for poster setup. Smith also reported that the Dean of the APSU Graduate School would welcome attendees and the Mayor of Clarksville would be in attendance.

*Treasurer*—Steve Murphree discussed the Treasurer's report provided below:

TAS Income and Expenses (7/1/2017 through 6/30/2018).

Category Description	7/1/2017-6/30/2018
<b>INCOME</b>	
Annual Meeting Income	1,652.73
Annual Meeting Income - Misc.	15.00
Annual Meeting Lunch	1,545.00
Annual Meeting Registration	2,730.00
Gale Group Dividend Income	107.82
Gift Received	45.00
Library Journal Subscriptions	1,050.00
Membership Dues	12,320.00
Page Charge For Journal	1,660.00
Unrealized Gain	17,983.02
Unrealized Gain-Loss on Star Fund	-500.31
Vanguard Dividend Payment	4,825.79
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>43,434.05</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Annual Meeting	6,692.59
Bank Charge	-2.00
Collegiate Division	1,094.93

Dues and Fees	200.00
Executive Committee Meetings	409.99
Journal	193.86
Journal printing	7,456.47
Junior Academy of Science	6,793.15
Misc. Expenses	50.00
Science Fair	805.00
Secretary	102.72
TJAS Award	2,700.00
TJAS Research Grant	459.00
Travel Expenses Executive Committee	178.00
Treasurer	364.34
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>27,498.05</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL** **15,936.00**

TTAS Balance Sheet (6/30/2018).

Category Description	
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking	13,332.51
Star Fund	268,567.83
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>281,900.34</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>281,900.34</b>

TAS Income and Expenses (7/1/2018 through 11/15/2018).

Category Description	7/1/2018-11/15/2018
<b>INCOME</b>	
Annual Meeting Income	3,177.03
Meeting Lunch	24
Meeting Registration	125
Meeting T-shirt	10
Membership Dues	6,370.00
Page Charge For Journal	990
Unrealized Gain-Loss on Star Fund	8,405.25
Vanguard Dividend Payment	1,958.22
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>21,059.50</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Annual Meeting	4,007.37
Bank Charge	2
Dues and Fees	200
Journal	97.9
Journal printing	4,855.86
Postage and Delivery	13.1
TJAS Award	500

TJAS Research Grant	100
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>9,776.23</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>11,283.27</b>

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**TAS Balance Sheet (11/15/2018).**


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Category Description	
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking	16,210.53
Star Fund	276,973.08
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>293,183.61</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>293,183.61</b>

Treasurer Murphree reported that *Journal* expenses were lower due to combined issues, and that past members have been purged to prevent unnecessary mailings. Treasurer Murphree reported that he is working with our accounting consultant regarding fees from PayPal preregistrations and noted that 150 members pre-registered for the meeting (over the average of 90-100 preregistrations) with electronic pre-registrations accounting for two thirds of the total. There were 70 T-shirts sold at \$5 dollars each and remaining shirts will be sold for \$10 at the registration table. The Executive committee agreed to consider shirt sells for subsequent meetings (with the host institution's name on the shirt). Treasurer Murphree agree to investigate sales tax responsibility.

*Managing Editor*—Rachel Rigsby was not in attendance but submitted a report indicating that *JTAS* 93: 1–2 was published in June 2018 and materials for *JTAS* 93: 3–4 were being gathered. Managing Editor Rigsby asked that members of the Executive committee encourage colleagues to consider submitting items for publication. The Managing Editor is still interested in completing the archival set of *JTAS* issues. A call for legacy issues was issued in *JTAS* 93: 1–2. A telephone response (9 August 2018) from TAS member and former President Gus Tomlinson referenced April 1986 TAS Proceedings and the creation of a microfilm archival set. This was investigated, but no set has been located. TAS Proceedings from April 1988 referenced the confirmation that the Tennessee Historical Society (THS) was serving as a repository for the *Journal*. The THS online catalog appears to have the *Journal* listed. The Managing Editor has also inquired with THS regarding accepting Jack Rhoton's archival set of Junior Academy materials. They have recently responded to inquiries and believe they can accept the material. *JTAS* received a request to be added to Biodiversity Heritage Library. They have not yet been able to confirm that they will honor a 5-year embargo. Managing Editor Rigsby has made edits to the Publication Ethics Statement for the *Journal* and these edits will be presented for approval at the April 2019 meeting. It was reported that Assistant Editor Amy Thompson would be stepping down following completion of the Reelfoot Lake Ecosystem Guide special publication.

*Collegiate Division Director*—Fred Matthews contacted the current hosts for the Collegiate Division meeting to inquire about rotating the spring meeting. The current hosts expressed interest in maintaining the three separate meetings. The spring

2019 Middle Division meeting will be hosted at Belmont University. The West Division meeting will be held at The UT Martin Jackson Center. Teresa Fulcher will solicit potential hosts for the East Division meeting.

*Electronic Communications Director*—Gilbert Pitts reported on updates to the TAS website including changes to committees, section chairs, location of the 2019 meeting, and information on the TN STEAM festival. A significant accomplishment was creation of an on-line payment option for meeting registration that was active on August 31, 2018 and worked well throughout the registration period. Data on web traffic shows significant increases in gigabyte use in 2017 and 2018 over 2015 and 2016. Director Pitts attributes increased traffic to increased availability of *JTAS* articles. Director Pitts continues to migrate *Journal* issues for online access and to promote an increased social media presence. Director Pitts presented a recommendation from the National Association of Academies of Science to use *Memberleap* for web hosting. *Memberleap* charges a monthly fee based on the level of service and the number of members ranging from \$100 to \$250 with an initial set-up fee of \$350. Director Pitts noted that at a minimum we would need the “silver” service level which is \$150 per month. Director Pitts acknowledged that this is significantly more than we pay for *Midphase* web hosting (\$350 for 3 years). *WildApricot* was also mentioned as a potential web host. Discussion was tabled and will be revisited at the April 2019 meeting.

*Junior Academy of Science Director*—Preston MacDougall reported that three delegates (a record) from the TJAS were registered and were presenting at the American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS). He also noted that availability of research grants for students is attracting new schools to participate in the Junior Academy. Director MacDougall also reported that the recipient of the Distinguished Science Teacher Award was Mrs. Diana O'Neal from Sulphur Springs School in Washington County, Tennessee. Mrs. O'Neal will be recognized at the annual meeting.

*Visiting Scientist Director*—Tony Johnston not in attendance and submitted no report.

*Annual Meeting Coordinator*—Allyn Smith reported that he was looking at the possibility of a joint meeting with either the Kentucky Academy of Science or the Georgia Academy of Science. It was also recommended that we consider Alabama. Chairperson Stewart recommended that the Academy consider a joint meeting with the Kentucky Academy of Science (last joint meeting was in 1995).

## Reports from Representatives

*State Department of Education Liaison*—Brian Caine was not in attendance and submitted no report.

*AAAS Section Y Representative*—Preston MacDougall submitted no report.

## Reports from Committees

*Local Arrangements Committee Chairperson*—Allyn Smith. See 2018 Program Chairperson report.

*Long Ranging and Strategic Planning Chairperson*—Daniel Swartling and President-elect J. Allyn Smith reported the location for the annual meetings through 2021: 2019 at

Columbia State, 2020 at East Tennessee State University and 2021 at Tennessee Tech University.

*Auditing and Financial Oversight Committee*—Treasurer Murphree addressed recommendations from the informal audit and noted that open checks would be voided prior to the April 2019 meeting and that the duplicate deposit entry would be removed.

*Research and Education Committee Chairperson*—Kim Sadler was not in attendance and submitted no report.

*Publicity Committee Chairperson*—Mandy Carter-Lowe reported that onsite certificate printing will occur at the 2018 meeting and that honorable mention is an option for judges instead of, or in addition to, first, second and third place awards. The Executive committee discussed opportunities for news outlet attention and mentioned keynote addresses on evolution, or publication of a TAS statement on climate change. Sponsorship of events such as the TN STEAM festival also offer publicity with the TAS logo on the program guide. Chairperson Carter-Lowe will investigate recording of the keynote address at the 2019 meeting at Columbia State.

*Nominating Committee*—The Executive committee approved the following slate of officers to be presented to the membership at the annual meeting: President-elect Darlene Panvini, Treasurer Steve Murphree, and Secretary Teresa Fulcher.

*Fellows Committee*—No nominations have been received or forward to the committee chaired by Dr. Charles McGhee.

*Membership Committee Chairperson*—Karen Kendall-Fite will continue to investigate setting up an Academy *Instagram* account. Chairperson Kendall-Fite also suggested hosting a clinical laboratory science meeting that would provide continuing education units (CEUs) for health and medical science professionals. The meeting/training would need to be at least one hour and would have to be PACE (Professional Acknowledgment for Continuing Education) accredited through the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science.

*Necrology Committee Chairperson*—Martin Stewart noted the passing of Dr. David W. Sammons, Biology from The University of Tennessee at Martin, Dr. G.K. (Paul) Sharma, Biology, from The University of Tennessee at Martin, and Dr. Richard J. (Dick) Raridon, retired from ORNL. These individuals will be remembered at the annual meeting. Chairperson Stewart also expressed an interest in submitting an inquiry to the membership in September for names of deceased members.

*Resolutions Committee Chairperson*—Preston MacDougall will present a resolution of appreciation to the host institution at the annual meeting.

## Old Business

President Mehlhorn noted that the Academy should pursue membership with COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics) prior to printing of the *Journal* ethics statement. President Mehlhorn reported that the publication and disbursement of the Reelfoot Lake Ecosystem Guide could move forward as author references have been received. She also noted that the Academy had not yet received agreement from the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) at Harvard to delay digitization of the most recent five years of *Journal* articles.

## New Business

President Mehlhorn reported on the results from the survey to the membership regarding the preferred format for the *Journal*. She noted that the Allen Press contract has been renewed for 2 years, but the contract could be changed to accommodate an online format. Concerns were expressed over the loss of a printed *Journal*, how to maintain library subscriptions, and integration of previously scanned *Journal* issues posted on the TAS website. The possibility of a single yearly print issue was discussed and President Mehlhorn agreed to investigate the costs. It was noted that publication of four issues per year is specifically mentioned in the TAS constitution. The Executive Committee agreed to table the issue until more information could be obtained with plans to convene electronically later.

Electronic Communications Director Gilbert Pitts noted that he is working to add a description of the duties of the Member-at-Large to the TAS Operations Manual.

Junior Academy of Science Director Preston MacDougall noted that while the Academy voted in April 2018 to sponsor the 2018 TN STEAM festival with a \$250 donation, that money was not received. Director MacDougall made a motion to support the TN STEAM festival in 2019 with a donation for \$500. The motion was seconded by Past President Daniel Swartling and the motion carried. Director Fred Matthews made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 PM CST and the motion was seconded by Director Gilbert Pitts. The motion carried and President Sandy Mehlhorn adjourned the meeting.

## Additional Business Conducted Electronically

On Tuesday 12 February 2019 at 9:00 AM CST, members of the TAS Executive Committee constituting a quorum convened via Zoom conference call to discuss three possible options for the TAS *Journal*: maintain *Journal* publication with no changes, move the *Journal* entirely online, or move the *Journal* online and print a single cumulative issue at the end of the year to be mailed to all current members. Members discussed the three options and the costs. Moving the *Journal* online would cost approximately \$2800 per year with a one-time \$3000 set up fee. Printing and mailing a single year issue would cost approximately \$3,800. It was suggested that to save on page charges, proceedings of the Academy could reside online, and research articles only could be printed. It was agreed that abstracts from both Collegiate Division and annual meetings would be contained in the cumulative print issue. Director Pitts noted that we are well into our contract with Allen Press for a 2-year cycle, and it might be prudent to make changes at the beginning of the next cycle. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to complete the current contract with Allen Press and to subsequently move the *Journal* online for the following 2-year contract, also printing a single cumulative *Journal* issue at the end of each year. The motion was approved. The Executive Committee agreed to reconsider all options in three years and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Teresa Fulcher  
Pellissippi State Community College