

Macromolecular Science and Engineering Division
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, August 15, 2000 17:30
Chateau Cartier, Aylmer Quebec

Agenda

- Approval of Last Annual General Meeting Minutes
- Director(s) / Chair's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Conference Report (High Polymer Forum, IUPAC, Others)
- Awards (W. Wang)
- Bilateral Relationships between MSED and Other Polymer Societies (W. Wang)
- Other Business

Attendees: A total of 20 conference participants attended this year's AGM including members of the executive.

Approval of Last Executive Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the last annual general meeting at the 1999 Toronto CSC conference was approved as written.

Director / Chair's Report: Hadi reported on the World Polymer Summit held in Warsaw Poland on July 12, 2000. A World Polymer Organization (2000) booklet was distributed during the meeting. This publication contains information on the different polymer organizations in over 30 countries around the world. During this summit meeting a series of statistics related to the polymer organizations around the world were presented. As far as the number of members for polymer organizations in each country, Japan has 1/4 of the total members worldwide. Hadi presented part of these statistics including the distribution of memberships by country and also by region (Asia/Pacific, Africa, Europe, FSU, ME and Americas). Over half of the memberships are in the Asia/Pacific region with 25,000 members, America with 7,000 members and Europe with 12,000 members.

Both Japan and Brazil have approximately 400 companies as registered members of the Polymer Society. The parent chemical organization encourages corporate memberships in Japan and Brazil. When a certain number of employees joins the organization then the whole company is considered as a corporate member and membership privileges is

is not early enough. It was suggested that polymer chemistry be introduced at the earlier year of undergraduate curriculum. In 2 years time at the next meeting, 2 hours will be devoted to developing a strategy and future direction and on how to teach polymer science earlier. The outcome of the summit was to encourage in each country's polymer organization, a program that would introduce polymer chemistry as early as the first year. However, before this could be done, the teaching material has to be developed. The next Summit meeting will be held in China.

Two topics (teaching polymer chemistry earlier and encouraging company memberships) was discussed in detail by the executive with further correspondence to occur via e-mail.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Holdcroft, treasurer of MSED was not able to attend the meeting. Hadi reported on his behalf that the MSED division is in a good financial position. The CSC has given the division treasurer an additional \$1500.00 for this year. To provide continued financial support by Bayer Canada for the Bayer/MSED Awards, a formal request letter should be sent to Bayer Canada via Bill Hopkins. This letter should come from either the treasurer or the MSED chair. The contribution by Bayer of \$3000.00 covers 2 graduate thesis awards each of \$1000.00 and a maximum of 4 poster awards each of \$250.00. Two poster awards are given at the CSC conference and two at the chemical engineering conference CSChE October 15-18, 2000 in Montreal Quebec.

Conference Reports:

30th High Polymer Forum; Ninety-four participants registered for the 30th High Polymer Forum. A new format was introduced this year where the conference began on Sunday afternoon and ended by noon on Wednesday. This new format was well received. In comparison 80-90 people attended the Quebec high polymer forum and approximately 80 attended the Sarnia meeting. The organizers would like to see more participation from the biomedical polymer group who were not represented here. A total of 37 talks and 43 posters were presented.

The next High Polymer Forum will be in 2002. It was suggested that a list of possible sites be e-mailed to the participant list requesting feedback so that the new organizing committee can decide on the location for the next forum. A full forum report will be forthcoming from Y. Deslandes.

2000 CSC in Calgary: Geraldine reported on the 2000 CSC conference in Calgary.

Prize winners; Lehn and Kroto and a young scientist award given to Dr. Craig Hawker along with presentations from industrial people. The remaining presentations were compressed into less than 2.5 days. As a consequence, there were 15 parallel sessions with many of them in synthesis which, is traditionally a strong component of the IUPAC meetings. Over 500 lecturers and 600 posters were presented in all.

High Polymer Forum: Ninety-four participants register for the 30th High Polymer Forum. A new format was introduced this year where the conference began on Sunday afternoon and ended by noon on Wednesday.. A total of 37 talks and 43 posters were presented. The next High Polymer Forum will be in 2002. For the new organizing committee to receive input on a location for the next forum it was suggested that a list of possible sites be e-mailed to the participant list requesting feedback. A full forum report will be forthcoming from Y. Deslandes.

Awards: Only one nomination for the undergraduate thesis award was received for 2000 and the original deadline has passed. This deadline has now been extended to Oct. 31, 2000. A reminder notice should be sent out in December and April of the next year to remind faculty and students to apply for the awards. Emphasis should be placed on encouraging graduate students to nominate themselves and then get their supervisor to provide the supporting documentation. If we encourage the students to take the initiative then maybe we will receive more nominations. In 1999, 8 nominations were received for student graduate awards.

The committee needs to provide better advertising of our awards and encourage greater participation by students in applying for them. The division now has a total of 8 possible awards available per year for a total of \$4000.00 for students since the addition of two new awards. The full list includes:

- 1) **Graduate Student MSED/Bayer Inc. Awards:** Maximum two awards are available per year valued at \$1000.00 per award. The students eligible for this award are graduate students pursuing a masters or doctorate degree in polymer science or polymer engineering at a Canadian university. The winners will be invited to present their research work at an MSED-supported Canadian polymer meeting. An amount of up to \$500 for travel expenses will be provided.
- 2) **Poster Awards:** Four poster awards valued at \$250.00 each funded by Bayer Canada (Rubber Division) are given out each year. Student posters presented in the MSED

and the recipient will be invited to present the research work during the annual IPRUW May Symposium on Polymerization Theory and Practice. Accommodation expenses at Waterloo during the symposium will be covered by IPRUW.

Action Item: In the next ACCN advertise the number of different awards given out by the MSED.

The executive discussed the option of approaching other companies for more money to support students travel expenses. This would also attract more students to apply.

Action Item: The executive were asked to take action on getting more money to sponsor a poster and/or oral presentation award to be issued at the next High Polymer Forum which is in 2002. It was also discussed the possibility of four awards, \$100.00 each where two would be paid for by the High Polymer Forum committee and 2 by the MSED division.

Bilateral Relationships with Other Polymer Societies: Wayne presented a proposal for the MSED division to organize a bilateral relationship between the MSED division and another polymer society in a developing country. Wayne suggested China since he has already had initial discussions with the chair of the Polymer Division in China. The premise is that a delegate of 20 Canadian scientists participates in a conference in China organized by their host organization. Then two years later the 20 Chinese delegates come to Canada and participate in a conference organized by the host Canadian organization. There was some discussion on whether NSERC is still funding this type of proposal. Generally, the attendees at the annual general meeting accepted this proposal as a good activity to initiate and were in favor of Wayne Wang contacting China's counterpart for further discussion.

Other Business: The MSED does not have an up-to-date list (mailing address or e-mail address) of its members. **Action Item** for **Hadi** will be to contact CSC head office requesting such a list of people working in the polymer field in Canada, both MSED members and non-members. If such a distribution list is not available we will have to compile one.

Nominations for Members-at-Large; The following individuals were nominated as the MSED Members at Large; Dr. Hayder A. Zahalka from Bayer Rubber Division, e-mail address hayder.zahalka.b@bayer.com , Dr. Even J. Lemieux from DuPont Canada, e-mail address even.j.lemieux@can.dupont.com , Dr. Christopher J. Barrett Assistant Professor of Chemistry at McGill University, e-mail address barrett@chemistry.mcgill.ca and Dr. Nola