

Business meeting of the 19th Annual Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics
held October 17, 2005

Submitted by Jack Correia (for Margaret Daugherty)

Attendees: Clay Clark, Trevor Creamer, Jack Correia, Michael Johnson, Kathleen Hall, Doug Barrick, Dorothy Beckett, Vince Hilser, Madeline Shea, Luis Marky, George Makhatadze, George Turner, Gary Ackers, Tim Lohman, Brad Chaires, Mike Brenowitz, Dick Sheardy, and John Shriver.

The meeting was run by this year's organizers Clay Clark and Trevor Creamer. Karen Fleming and Rohit Pappu were elected as the organizers for the 20th Annual Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics, with Vince LiCata as alternate.

Brad Chaires was elected President Elect for the Gibbs Society on Biothermodynamics.

Michael Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report: We currently have ~\$23,000. This year Clay and Trevor raised over \$5000 from sponsors. A final sum will be obtained when all the checks from this year's meeting are received and bills are paid.

Last year we voted to donate \$500 to the Bridging Initiative, a lobbying organization that Ken Dill spoke to us about. Its mission is to increase funding for research that sits at the interface of life and physical sciences. Unfortunately the legality of a nonprofit organization giving donations to a lobbying organization was never clarified and the donation was never made.

The current size of the Touch of Nature Conference Center limits the size of the Gibbs Conference. Last year it was unanimously agreed that we limit the meeting to 170/180 people, which is approximately the limits of the space available, especially the poster room. For the first time this year late registering people were turned away. It was agreed to continue this process of limiting the meeting to 180 people. In the future the meeting announcement should include a disclaimer warning people early registration may guarantee their acceptance to attend the meeting. The attendance at this year's meeting was 178.

A permanent website for Gibbs (<http://mljohnson.pharm.virginia.edu/gibbs/>) has been created at UVA. This site will be used for posting official documents of the Incorporation as required by the conditions of that incorporation. The article by Ackers and Bolen (Biophys. Chem. 64, p 3-5, 1997) that describes the history of the meeting is now posted as a PDF, with permission from Biophys. Chem. We agreed to investigate the posting of the schedules from previous Gibbs conferences. Madeline will oversee the collection of all previous schedules in some file format from previous organizers.

It was suggested that we include the Lodge at Giant City on the list of hotel accommodations for next year. Objections from Hilser & Barrick were noted. We will continue to not use the BEST Hotel in Carbondale, due to its lack of quality.

A 20th anniversary of the Gibbs Conference volume was proposed to Enrico Di Cera and Biophysical Chemistry by Vince LiCata prior to the 19th meeting. Enrico suggested they would be interested in a 25th anniversary issue. Thus we agreed to revisit organizing a 25th anniversary issue in five years.

Jack Correia acted as secretary at this business meeting because Peggy Daugherty did not attend. It was agreed to continue her term of office through 2008. She does plan on attending next year.