

Business meeting of the 18th Annual Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics
October 11, 2004

Submitted by Margaret Daugherty

Attendees: Jack Correia, Michael Johnson, Margaret Daugherty, Kathleen Hall, Doug Barrick, Dorothy Beckett, Vince Hilser, Bertrand Garcia-Moreno, Madeline Shea, Luis Marky, George Makhatadze, Jim Lee, Mike Mossing, Wayne Bolen and John Shriver.

Clay Clark and Trevor Creamer were unanimously elected as the organizers for the 19th Annual Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics.

Dorothy Beckett was unanimously elected President Elect for the Gibbs Society on Biothermodynamics.

Michael Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report: We currently have ~\$10,500, which is a slight increase (couple of hundred) from the previous year. A final sum will be obtained when all the checks from this year's meeting are received. He then brought up the issue that although we are tax-exempt in regards to the Federal Government, we do not have tax-exempt status in the state of Illinois. Hence, we end up paying ~\$500/year in taxes to Illinois. One way to avoid this is to somehow offer a university-based credit for students who attend; as no one was enthusiastic about pursuing this idea, the Illinois taxes will be paid.

Michael Johnson suggested that, as long as our tax-exempt status is not compromised, the Society donates \$500 to the Bridging Initiative. This is the lobby organization that Ken Dill suggested that we support during the meeting. Its mission is to increase funding for research that sits at the interface of life and physical sciences.

Additional items included meeting logistics.

The current size of the Touch of Nature Conference Center limits the size of the Gibbs Conference. It was unanimously agreed that we limit the meeting to 170/180 people, which is approximately the limits of the space available.

A permanent website was suggested for posting of registration documents, but that we do not pursue on-line registration at this point in time. It was suggested that we should perhaps post a list of those who register and are accepted to the meeting.

It was suggested that we do not use the BEST Hotel in Carbondale, due to its lack of quality.

Post-meeting addendum: The 19th Annual Gibbs Conference on Biothermodynamics will be held October 15 – 18, 2005.